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A

ROWLAND FOR AN OLIVER,

&c.

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*Price 4s. in Boards.*

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1871 (1872-1873) 1873-1874



A

ROWLAND FOR AN OLIVER,

IN ANSWER TO

DR. MOSELEY'S

OLIVER FOR A ROWLAND,

AND TO

MR. BIRCH;

CONTAINING

A DEFENCE OF VACCINATION.

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BY JOHN RING,

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN  
LONDON, AND OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETIES OF  
LONDON AND PARIS.

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Authors, when damn'd, once dy'd like other men,  
But our damn'd authors live, and write again.

DRYDEN.

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## P R E F A C E.

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SOME people think Dr. Moseley's late attack on the Rev. Rowland Hill rather illiberal; but whatever sins the learned Physician of Chelsea College may have to answer for, this publication of his appears excusable; for he tells us at the very outset, in the words of Shakespeare, that

*“ It is the very error of the Moon;  
She comes more near the earth than she was wont,  
And makes men mad.”*

In truth, he has now more reason than ever to be mad; for he has heard that the Report of the College of Physicians is favourable to vaccination; and read Dr. Pemberton's Harveian Oration, in which he declares his opinion, that there are very few well-authenticated cases, in which this valuable discovery of Dr. Jenner has disappointed our expectation.

He also declares, that he supposes there is no one so ignorant as not to know, *“ that there are every*

*where books against the practice, publicly sold with the most unparalleled impudence ; in which truth and falsehood are so artfully combined, as not only to delude the unwary, but also to confound the wise and prudent ; whose utmost diligence is scarcely sufficient perfectly to develop the cunning fraud."*

These are serious charges indeed ; and as Dr. Moseley has had a considerable share in writing the books in question, it is no wonder he should feel sore, when the lash of criticism is so ably applied. On this occasion, he will probably call to mind another passage of the celebrated dramatic writer, whom he has so much studied :

*" Let the gall'd jade wince."*

Dr. Moseley has thought proper to give us an Oliver for our Rowland ; and it is but right to give him a Rowland for his Oliver. One good turn deserves another.



## ROWLAND FOR AN OLIVER.

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It appears strange to the world, that the Rev. Rowland Hill, whose whole life has been spent in acts of benevolence and devotion, should incur the displeasure of the antivaccinists; but it must be recollected, that people who do not run the same race may now and then happen to meet, and have an encounter. It must also be recollected, that when Mr. Hill goes about doing good, it is an oblique reflection on those who go about doing mischief. When he tries to eradicate a disease, it is natural that a man who lives by diseases, and wishes diseases to live, should tell him to mind his own business. "Follow your own trade," says Dr. Moseley; "follow your own trade, Mr. Hill; and let me follow mine."

It is indeed a most unreasonable thing, that Mr. Hill, and many other venerable divines, not only of the church of England, but of every other Christian church, not satisfied with discharging the duties of their sacred function, and promoting the eternal happiness of mankind, should endeavour to promote their

temporal happiness also. This is a work of supererogation, which the creed of an antivaccinist will never allow. Every man should confine himself to his own profession. Dr. Moseley is right, therefore, in maintaining, that Mr. Hill ought not to trouble himself about physic, till he and his friends trouble themselves about religion.

Dr. Moseley tells us, he goes to see theatrical performances ; and seems to think Mr. Hill's preaching all a farce. We knew before, that he was fond of such amusements. I was long ago informed by my correspondent at Jamaica, that when he was an apothecary at Kingston, he attended to those amusements so much, that it is difficult to conceive how he could perform such extraordinary feats in inoculation as he pretends.

He finds fault with Mr. Hill, for alluding to the subject of vaccination in his sermon ; but he does not find fault with Mr. Massey, for alluding to the subject of variolous inoculation in his sermon ; in which he tells us, that the Devil inoculated Job :

“ Dat veniam corvis, vexat censura columbas.”

It must, however, be recollected, that the sermon preached by Mr. Massey, *who had a brother an apothecary*, was *favourable to trade* ; and that Mr. Hill's was *against it*.

If Mr. Hill has erred in this respect, he has erred with many other divines, as exemplary in their lives as any the church of England can boast. It will be sufficient, on this occasion, to mention one of them.

The Rev. Mr. Barry of Reading, in a sermon preached for the benefit of the Humane Society, in the year 1805, introduced the following animated and pathetic appeal :

“ I cannot fail to embrace so suitable an opportunity as the present, of making some allusion to the important subject of Vaccine Inoculation.—O ye mothers ! fathers ! friends of humanity ! hear with exultation, and gratitude to Heaven, that one loathsome and fatal disease, which heretofore annually blotted from the book of life forty thousand of the inhabitants of this united kingdom, may now be exterminated by means of a safe and effectual remedy.

“ By the solemn attestations of this fact, *from men of the highest professional reputation, of unsullied characters, and disinterested motives, after strict investigation, patient remark, and ample experience,* you are called on by these strong appeals ; you are conjured by duty and affection to your children, yourselves, and posterity, to receive a blessing, which, under Divine Providence, has in this generation been pointed out. Suffer not, I beseech you, any unfounded prejudice to discourage you from so momentous an obligation ; lest, through such omission, you may hereafter be left in unavailing wishes, and the most inconsolable regret.

“ You who are more advanced in life, and may have hitherto lived in terror and bondage of that direful contagion, and are at liberty to judge and determine for yourselves, relieve your minds from all farther anxiety ; and avail yourselves of these welcome and happy tidings.”

This discourse was highly gratifying to the learned, liberal, and enlightened audience to which it was addressed; but it is disgusting to Dr. Moseley. As to Mr. Hill, he has cast his pearls before swine; for Dr. Moseley tells us, that if all his customers hated noise as much as he does, there would soon be an end of *his trade*.

Many other examples of the zealous exertion and co-operation of the clergy, both at home and abroad, might easily be adduced, in addition to those already stated in my former publications. One, however, appears eminently entitled to notice. It is a circular letter from the Bishop of Contancees, in Normandy, to the clergy of his diocese, dated February 21, 1805. An extract of this letter appeared in one of the Parisian papers, of which the following is a translation: “ Religion, Reverend Sir, which makes it our duty to watch over the eternal destinies of the people entrusted to our care, imposes on us an equal obligation, to interest ourselves also in their temporal concerns. If, with regard to the latter, we ought to warn them against every thing which is hurtful, it is no less our duty to instruct them in every thing, which, experience has taught us, may be useful to them. By such efforts, we second the dispensations of Divine Providence; which permits and countenances the progress of human wisdom; and encourages every discovery for the prevention and cure of those evils, that shorten or embitter the life of man.

“ You are well aware, Sir, that the small-pox is one of the most cruel scourges, under which humanity



groans ; and that it has long committed the most dreadful havoc, wherever it has been introduced. One half of the human species were either destroyed or mutilated by this disease, till the happy discovery of inoculation lessened the number of its victims, which is still too great. It was practised from one end of France to the other ; and experience has proved the vast advantage of the discovery ; but nevertheless, inoculation produces a disease, and one that is infectious : nor is it always a security against the frightful ravages of the small-pox.

“ The inoculation of the cow-pock, which is lately discovered, and adopted in almost every part of the world, and justified by innumerable testimonies, is a more simple and easy method ; and free from those inconveniences, which are inseparable from the inoculation of the small-pox. So far from being a severe indisposition, it scarcely deserves the name of a disease. It has no infection to be feared, no ill consequences to be apprehended. In short, this new practice is such, that if there exists in nature any mode of accomplishing the total extermination of the small-pox, that dreadful enemy of mankind, we have reason to believe it is the inoculation of the cow-pock.

“ His Excellency the Minister of the Interior, whose talents are equal to his virtues, has deemed it his duty to state to the bishops the whole advantage of this new practice. This was no hasty resolution ; but the result of a long investigation of facts, which were submitted to his own observation.

“ The Minister relies on our zeal, our philan-



thropy, and our influence on the religious opinions of the people, to contribute as much as lies in our power, towards the propagation of this practice; and the employment of those means, which, all together, appear evidently conducive to the welfare and happiness of mankind. I consider it my duty to co-operate with him; and doubt not but you will cheerfully second his intentions. You will therefore lose no time, in adding to the number of instructions which it is your duty to give your parishioners, that of making them sensible, how much it behoves them, for their own sake, as well as for the sake of their children and their domestics, to have recourse as soon as possible to the salutary practice of vaccination. If their objections to it arise from any religious prejudices, you will eradicate them, and ease their minds of those dangerous scruples of conscience; and avail yourself of their natural love of life, in order to prevent them from making a false application of principles, which may at length terminate in their own destruction.

“ In discharging this interesting part of your ministry, you will, in the first place, enjoy the satisfaction of depriving death of thousands of victims; and in the next place, you will once more be entitled to the acknowledgments of our chief magistrate; who suffers nothing to escape him, that may prove beneficial to his subjects.

“ The last reflection that strikes me is this: religion itself, when employed by you to throw light on the subject in question, will become still more dear to the people committed to your charge. The husband

and the father, the mother, and the child, when preserved by the practice of vaccination, communicated and recommended to them by their pastor, will be the more disposed to listen with effect to the truths of the Gospel, announced to them by the same mouth, which instructed them in the means of prolonging their existence."

*Of the chosen Band.*

Dr. Moseley says, Mr. Hill is come into the field when the battle is over. Dr. Moseley claims the victory for himself, and the chosen band which has fought on his side. As he is fond of clipping the English language, it is probable that instead of *band*, he meant to say *bànditti*; for such a motley crew, associated for such a purpose, was never heard of before. But whatever similarity there may be in their lives, their success has been very different.

"Hic sceleris pretium cruce tulit, hic diadema."

This chosen band have rendered one service to the public, which they never intended. By their base and contemptible publications, equally destitute of learning and common sense, they have opened the eyes of the Legislature; and shewn the necessity of a *medical reform*.

Half of them are apothecaries done into doctors, as a horse was done into a doctor long ago; and such has been the success of the experiment, thanks to the credulous and easy good nature of John Bull, that it

is supposed the other half will soon be done into doctors also.

The author of the Adviser, when describing how a man may become a great physician, in London, and realize a fortune, without the aid of ability, learning, or integrity, relates the history of a practitioner then belonging to the medical band ; which is very similar to that of more than one of his colleagues. Early in life he was transplanted from Dublin to London. At first he set up an apothecary's shop in St. Giles's ; which, by blustering and vapouring, and talking big on subjects he did not understand, he was enabled to quit in a few years ; and to purchase a diploma.

He was ambitious of literary fame, and of quoting the Syriac and Coptic ; but not being a scholar himself, he was obliged to hire a deputy, and to pay dear for his vanity. His real character was at last detected ; in consequence of which his practice began to decline ; and he endeavoured to raise himself again to notoriety, by writing against vaccination. Many people are so stupid as to imagine, that the temple of *Æsculapius* is difficult of access ; and that every physician in great practice is a man of great learning and skill ; but in this they only betray their ignorance. Let any illiterate apothecary, or impudent and unprincipled quack, get himself dubbed a doctor ; and a friend at court, or the folly of the age, will do the rest.

One exception, however, to this rule has lately occurred to a member of the chosen band. He was a starving apothecary ; and now, by virtue of a



Scotch diploma, he is become a starving quack-doctor.

“ Dear Thomas, didst thou never pop  
 Thy head into a tinman’s shop ?  
 There, Thomas, didst thou never see,  
 ’T is but by way of simile,  
 A *Squirrel* spend his little rage  
 In jumping round a rolling cage,  
 The cage, as either side turn’d up,  
 Striking a ring of bells a-top ?  
 Mov’d in the orb, pleas’d with the chimes,  
 The foolish creature thinks he climbs :  
 But here or there, turn wood or wire,  
 He never gets two inches higher.”

In thus degrading the regular profession, he may perhaps plead the same excuse as his brother in *Romeo and Juliet* ; that his poverty, and not his will, consented.

Another member of the chosen band was far more successful. Having recommended himself to a military officer, now high in the marine department, by his adulation, and his dissipation, he got himself *done into a doctor* ; settled in the metropolis, and was soon raised to a considerable degree of eminence ; from which he as soon began to descend. In short, it was evident to every one, except himself, that Fortune, in one of her freaks, had lifted him above his proper level.

One circumstance which accelerated his downfall was this : He was appointed physician to a certain great personage ; and when His Royal Highness had the measles, he did not know the disorder ; in conse-

quence of which the great physician of the day was called in, who declared that he would not hold a consultation with such a man. We are told, there is no royal road to geometry : there is, however, a royal road to a very snug place, which our hero was so fortunate as to obtain ; but as he was rapidly descending in the balloon of public favour, he tried to break his fall by laying hold of the parachute of Vaccination.

There is, indeed, one regularly-bred practitioner in the chosen band ; but, either from want of capacity or of application, he is generally considered to be the greatest blockhead in the profession. He is a sworn enemy to all innovation, and of course to all improvement ; and has two reasons for wishing long life and prosperity to the small-pox. The first is, that it is profitable to himself ; the second, that he thinks it a merciful dispensation of Providence, to ease a poor man of the burden of his family.

One of the members of the chosen band sprung from Wapping, and settled in the neighbourhood of *Golden Square* ; but not finding “ all the streets paved with gold,” as he had been taught to expect, he began to doubt whether “ all the folks were witty.” He therefore offered, *as a friend of humanity*, to sow the seeds of the small-pox gratuitously among the poor, in hopes of reaping a plentiful harvest among the rich. Not succeeding according to his wishes, in the metropolis, he has ever since been wandering about from place to place, in order to find out John Bull’s weaker part ; but hitherto in vain.



My readers may be curious to know, what reason I can assign, for placing any member of the chosen band after such worthies as those before described; whom some people are so unpolite as to call the dregs of the profession; be it known, therefore, that it is his own choice; and that he has no higher ambition, than to be the corporal of the chosen band, and *to close the rear*. When he brandishes his pen against vaccination, or declaims against it in the Forum, he fancies himself another Cicero; and such is his inclination for classical subjects, that he never sees the Bacchanalian group at Hyde Park Corner, without wishing to be one of the party.

He is for ever boasting of his scholastic acquirements; yet he frequently uses *the masculine* gender instead of *the feminine*, and makes a *false concord*. He once belonged to a strolling company, and performed in the opera called Sodom and Gomorrah; but his performance, whatever approbation it might have met with in Italy, did not suit the taste of an English audience; and he was interrupted in *the last act*.

One needy adventurer, who enlisted himself in the chosen band at a very early period, after filling our periodical publications with fictitious cases, and exciting a false alarm concerning vaccination, put an end to his own existence, and gave a shock to his colleagues, from which they never recovered, till they met with the pleasant cordial in Fullwood's Rents.

Dr. Moseley casts reflections on the character of Mr. Hill, and other friends of vaccination: it is, therefore, necessary to inform him, that such reflec-

tions come with an ill grace from any member of the chosen band. Mr. Hill having observed, that a girl twelve years of age made the vaccine lancet a plaything; he says, the moon tells him this girl is eighteen years old. This is false intelligence, but it is not the only false intelligence which Dr. Moseley has received from the moon.

He boasts of his predictions concerning the downfall of vaccination; which also is derived from the moon; and which may be ranked with those of Mr. Brothers. The College of Physicians, however, have declared, that he is a false prophet!

He introduces a dialogue between Mr. Hill and a lady, in which the former expresses an opinion, that it is nothing but custom which makes people prefer the flesh of swine to *a roasted puppy*. The public are, indeed, very fond of seeing a puppy *roasted*: I am, therefore, at this very time, *roasting* one for their entertainment.

He tells us, he has known people of distinction eat cow-dung instead of mustard. This is to be taken in a metaphorical sense. It means, that he has known some of them swallow the dregs of science, and the garbage and excrements of literature, contained in his publications, and those of his friends.

He tells us, his credit has long stood very low with cow-poxers. It is therefore necessary to ascertain who cow-poxers are. *Qui facit per alium, facit per se*. Not only the members of the medical profession, but the nobility, gentry, and clergy of Great Britain, and all the crowned heads of Europe are cow-poxers.

The most respectable part of the world are cow-poxers; therefore, as Dr. Moseley's credit has long stood very low with cow-poxers, it has long stood very low with the most respectable part of the world.

He denies that the small-pox has been attended with more fatal consequences, since the introduction of inoculation, than before. As the fact, however, has been proved by the most authentic records, he will not raise his credit by denying it; nor will he raise his credit by denying, that a person may have the small-pox twice. He says, Dr. Woodville never saw an instance of the kind; but I have proved the contrary in the Medical Journal, by the attestation of more than one witness.

Mr. Hill having declared, that he had little or no doubt but half of Dr. Rowley's cases are false, Dr. Moseley resents this; but I have given reasons in the Medical Journal for believing that half his cases are false, and the other half not true, by convicting him of wilful falsehood, when, if I had been wrong, he, and the rest of the chosen band, were in a state to contradict me, and to vindicate his assertions.

With regard to the ox-faced boy, the statement brought forward by Dr. Rowley, and again brought forward by Dr. Moseley, though signed by his father, or some good friend for him, is false; and contrary to what his father gave to me, and afterwards to Mr. Moore in my presence. He at first tried to conceal from me, the circumstance of his having had the scrofula in his family; till the sore in his other



child's groin, and the scar in his own neck, betrayed it. The boy's own mother fully accounted for the abscesses in his face, which did not occur for more than two years after vaccination; by informing me, that they took place soon after they left a warm and dry situation, and came to that of the cold and damp timber-yard, where they now live.

She also told me, that he had an eruption in his face soon after vaccination; but it did not last long. This is no uncommon circumstance in the children of what Dr. Moseley very properly calls, *the neglected poor*. When, therefore, the antivaccinists pretend, that new and monstrous diseases are excited in the children of the poor by vaccination, and affect to pity them, and accuse the friends of vaccination of committing a sin when they introduce the practice, well may Mr. Hill say, that *they cover their arts with the cant of pretended philanthropy*, and a hypocritical reverence for the Deity; and that they have much to answer for, on account of the mischief occasioned by their false and daring publications.

#### *Dr. Moseley's Cases.*

Having investigated Dr. Moseley's former cases, and ascertained that they were almost all either totally unfounded, or grossly misrepresented, I feel little inclination to renew my inquiry into any thing of the kind which he may again bring forward: nevertheless, I shall make a few remarks on those which he has related in his present publications as far as they appear to me to deserve notice.

Some of them are pretended cases of new and monstrous diseases, occasioned by the cow-pox. It is certain, however, that the people in dairies have no diseases in consequence; and that the children of persons in the higher ranks of life were never so free from eruptions, and other blemishes of the skin, as at the present moment. It is also well known, that the cutaneous disorders among the poor are only those which have prevailed for more than a thousand years; and that they are less frequent than usual.

The blood itself is not infectious in any distemper; and the cow-pock is so mild as not to leave any distemper behind it; which is far from being the case with the small-pox, whether received by inoculation, or in the natural way. The fact is, the opponents of vaccination are not quite so ignorant as they pretend; but they know the weak side of the public, and make their attack accordingly.

I this day went to inquire into the case of Mr. Ince's child, of Holles Street. Mr. Ince has left Holles Street three years; and I cannot learn where he lives. Dr. Moseley tells us, he was vaccinated by ———; but as I do not know that gentleman, I must be satisfied with declaring, that I consider the story improbable and false. If cow's hair really grows on any child, let Dr. Moseley and his friends exhibit him at half a crown a head; and they will in some measure remunerate themselves for the trouble they have taken in finding out such a curiosity.

Another case related by Dr. Moseley is that of a child of Mr. Richardson, Cleveland Street, Fitzroy Square;



who, he says, was vaccinated in 1803, and died of the small-pox in 1805. I long ago inquired into this case, and found it false; had Dr. Moseley taken the trouble to inquire into it, he would probably have found the same. Mrs. Richardson informs me, that the child was inoculated for the cow-pock by Mr. Jones, then of Wigmore Street; but the arm did not rise in a satisfactory manner; in consequence of which, Mr. Jones wished to inoculate her again, but Mrs. Richardson chose to defer it, and in the mean time she caught the small-pox and died. These cases are sufficient proofs of Dr. Moseley's inaccuracy; and shew how far any thing related by him is entitled to investigation, or credit.

With respect to what are called failures, or cases in which the small-pox occurs after vaccination, I have enlarged so much on that point in my former Answer to Dr. Moseley, and in my other publications, that I think it unnecessary to say much on this topic here. One thing, however, must not be suffered to pass unnoticed, or uncontradicted; which is, an assertion of Dr. Moseley, that it is well known the anti-cow-pox standard erected by him was never joined by more than three or four medical people. An assertion so totally repugnant to the truth, is sufficient to invalidate all that he can hereafter advance.

### *The Anti-Cow-pox Standard.*

First, this standard was joined by a very eminent and respectable physician, Dr. John Sims; who soon

afterwards very candidly acknowledged his error, in the Medical Journal; and became one of the most zealous advocates of the practice. Next it was joined by Mr. Lawrence, a writer on the diseases of cattle; who appears, by his paper in the first volume of the Medical Journal, to be a much more learned, liberal, and enlightened author, than the present members of the chosen band. He says, "I beg leave to differ considerably in opinion, from a respectable correspondent of the Journal, Dr. Sims; who intimates, that 'all hazardous experiments ought to be discouraged.' Such a position, I think, is too much in the spirit of ancient prejudice, the grand retarder of all improvement, which can seldom make a progress without considerable risk, and present inconvenience.

"Upon such principles, inoculation for the small-pox, which has preserved so many valuable lives, and contributed so much to the health and personal appearance of such numbers, in this country particularly, would have been at this day unknown, and unpractised. Every one, who has read upon the subject, well knows the strenuous opposition which the first inoculators had to encounter, both in England and America, from vulgar prejudice; and that some of them, as well as their patients, even found a difficulty in escaping with their lives.

"Dr. Sims has adduced a single instance of inveterate and loathsome cow-pox, and its failure as a preventive of the small-pox; without doubt all due attention ought to be paid, and will be paid, to this instance; but no more. Examples on the favourable side are much more numerous

and precise. There have been also reports apparently well-founded, of a recurrence of the small pox.

“As to the peculiar loathsomeness of the ~~small~~<sup>cow</sup> pox, all infectious and eruptive diseases are sufficiently so; but with respect to the natural purity of the animal juices, none can be more truly so, or more wholesome, than those of the cow. In this affair, the medical faculty have strictly performed their duty, both as good patriots, and as men eager for the propagation of science. The discovery is fully and fairly in the way of experiments; and will stand or fall by its own merits.”

Mr. Lawrence then paid a just compliment to Dr. Jenner; but expressed an apprehension, that the cow-pox had already had its day; particularly if some of Dr. Pearson's accounts were to be depended on, that it was a much more severe disorder than the inoculated small-pox.

Dr. Moseley may perhaps contend, that Mr. Lawrence, being only a veterinary surgeon, has no right to be considered as a medical man: but I venture to assert, that he has at least as much title to that honour, as any member of the chosen band.

The next medical man who joined Dr. Moseley's anti-cow-pox standard was the unfortunate young man in Hatton Garden; who first wanted to put an end to porter, for the sake of promoting the sale of his friend's beverage, called brilliant; then wanted to put an end to the inoculation of the cow-pox for the sake of increasing his own practice in the inoculation of the small-pox, and at length put an end to himself, at his house in Somerset Street, to which he



had lately removed. He filled the periodical publications with false reports on the subject; and his example has been too much followed. His unhappy end, for some time, damped the ardour of the anti-vaccinists; but the cases in Fullwood's Rents revived it.

The author of "The Conscious View," supposed to be a Physician at Bath, is another medical man who joined the anti-cow-pox standard. Of this publication I have given some account, in my Treatise on the Cow-pox.

Mr. Lee of Bristol, and Mr. Edwards of Walcot, are two other medical men who joined that standard.

Mr. Goldson is another.

An open foe may prove a curse,  
But a pretended friend is worse.

Dr. Rowley and Mr. Birch are two other medical men who joined the anti-cow-pox standard. Their evidence, Dr. Moseley observes, as well as his, "is very well known." They are, indeed, better known than trusted.

Another medical man who joined the antivaccine standard is Dr. Squirrel; another is Mr. Ferdinand Smyth Stuart; another is Mr. Roberts, then residing in Warwick Street; another is Mr. Sutton, the celebrated inoculator for the small-pox; and another is the unnatural monster, whose name shall not pollute this page.

These are the chiefs; but it would be an endless task to enumerate all the medical men in town and

country who have joined that standard. Many of their names may be found in the writings of the anti-vaccinists; particularly in those of Dr. Rowley and Dr. Moseley; and others are alluded to in my Treatise. They have much to answer for, as Mr. Hill justly observes; but they may plead, that their poverty and not their will consented. Besides, they were not insensible of the value of a good dinner; or of the flavour of Burgundy and Champaign, whether the banquet of the day was at the Albany, or in Savile Row.

*Dr. Moseley's Attack on the Edinburgh Reviewer.*

Dr. Moseley is offended at the treatment which he has experienced from the Edinburgh Reviewer; and points out some of his blunders, which is no difficult task. He notices that passage, in which he talks of Dr. Willan having more practice in cutaneous diseases than *the rest* of his brethren; whereby he makes Dr. Willan to be his own brother. When the Reviewer tells us, his delicacy is hurt, at the language in which the vaccine contest has been conducted, he reminds Dr. Moseley of an old bawd, who, amidst a life of infamy and prostitution, has the impudence to talk of chastity and decorum.

It may be questioned, indeed, whether the Edinburgh Reviewer, or Dr. Moseley, has the greater right to complain of the bad language, and vulgar abuse, which they have received from each other: *Non nostrum tantas componere lites.*



*Dr. Moseley's Victory.*

Dr. Moseley claims the victory over the friends of vaccination. He boasts that he attacked them with Spartan courage. *When Greek meets Greek, then is the tug of war.* He will soon find, however, to his sorrow, that Spartan courage is not a match for Attic discipline, nor Spartan craft for Attic wit. He may boast that he has attacked vaccination; he may boast that he has attacked Heaven; but he will find, that such attacks only end in his own discomfiture and disgrace.

Let him now repose, as well as he can, on his own pillow, in which every victim of the small-pox must plant a thorn, while we turn to that new prodigy of literature, lately published by his friend Mr. Birch.

*Mr. Birch's new Publication.*

Mr. Birch's new publication is entitled, A Copy of the Answer to the Queries of the London College of Surgeons, and of a Letter to the College of Physicians, respecting the Experiment of Cow-pox: to which is added *what he calls* the second edition of Serious Reasons for uniformly objecting to the Practice of Vaccination.

In a preface to this publication, Mr. Birch does the Royal College of Physicians no more than justice in allowing, that in their late inquiry into the state of vaccination, instituted by order of Government, they adopted the most unexceptionable method that could.

be devised. Their inquiry was as general as possible ; and their decision was the result of the most mature deliberation, and the most unbiassed judgment. This decision has given general satisfaction ; but it has not given satisfaction to Mr. Birch. That gentleman may therefore stand alone in opinion, as he commonly does, and exclaim,

Victrix causa diis placuit, sed victa Catoni.

Mr. Birch alludes to the return made to the Queries of the London College of Surgeons ; and gives his opinion, that if the same inconveniencies had occurred in vaccination, *when it was first introduced*, as have occurred *during the period of eight years and a half*, they would have been sufficient to explode the practice. This is very true ; because, in that case, it would have been reasonable to attribute them to vaccination ; whereas now, from their occurring so very seldom, it is natural to attribute them to some other cause.

Mr. Birch observes, that a great majority of the members of the College of Surgeons returned no answer to the Queries. This was probably owing to their modesty and good sense ; because they were conscious they had less experience than their professional brethren. Mr. Birch is of opinion, that if all the members of our College had sent answers, more of the inconveniencies subsequent to vaccination might have been stated ; but he does not seem to be sensible, that in this case more of the benefits resulting from the practice would have been stated also ;

and that the proportion would probably have been nearly the same.

A little learning is a dang'rous thing.

In his former publications, Mr. Birch pretended to know more than Mr. Cline, and the other zealous friends of vaccination; in the present, he pretends to know more than the College of Physicians. This shews that his present production is *a chip of the Old Block*.

He there pretends, that several deaths have been occasioned by the cow-pox; whose greatest fault is, that it is *too mild*; and from which no person of common sense thinks death ever did happen, or ever can happen, at all; though it may certainly happen at that period, as well as at any other.

He *republishes* his "Serious Reasons;" which, of course, I shall reconsider. It is difficult to conceive, as the Reviewers observe, how any man could seriously offer such reasons to the public, as an apology for his conduct; but it is an established maxim with Mr. Birch, that every man has a right to expose his own folly as often as he pleases.

He says, the sale of his pamphlet convinces him that the arguments contained in it are just; notwithstanding the Edinburgh Review maintains the contrary. This, however, is a most unfortunate argument; for the sale of the Edinburgh Review is much greater than that of his pamphlet; and consequently the arguments contained in it are more just.

Mr. Birch publishes the queries put by the Court of



Assistants of the College of Surgeons to the members of that society. The first was, How many persons have you vaccinated? Mr. Birch's answer is, he has never vaccinated any. To the second question, Whether any of his patients had had the small-pox? his answer is, he has seen some patients labouring under the *natural small-pox by inoculation* after vaccination. Had this expression escaped from the pen of any man but Mr. Birch, a member of the chosen band, he would have been set down as a *natural* for writing such nonsense. He informs us, that he has also seen patients vaccinated in a variolous atmosphere, with the intention of preventing the small-pox; but the experiment did not succeed. I will tell him the reason; *it was performed too late.*

He asserts, that matter taken from the small-pox, in any stage of the disorder, can communicate nothing but the small-pox. This is refuted by general observation; as may be seen in my Treatise on the Cow-pox, under the article *Spurious Small-pox*. It is, however, a fact so well known, that none but an old woman would take matter after the turn of the disorder. Mr. Birch, having seen scrofulous tumours *after* vaccination, asks how this circumstance can be reconciled with the opinion of a celebrated surgeon, that no such disease is excited *by* vaccination? I answer, that it is excited by some other cause; and it is much to be wished, that Mr. Birch, and the other members of the chosen band, would learn the difference between the *post hoc* and the *propter hoc*, before they write again on this subject.



The third question of the College of Surgeons is, Have any bad effects occurred in your experience, in consequence of vaccination? Mr. Birch has not had any experience in the practice, yet he wishes it to be thought, that he knows more of the matter than those who have. When, therefore, he pretends that the cow-pox produces new diseases, we appeal from his decision to those who are better informed.

Dr. Willan proves, from the most authentic sources, that the diseases ascribed to vaccination by the ignorant and illiterate, are neither new, nor more common than heretofore; and that even in Gloucestershire, where the disease in the cow is most common, no person has ever applied to the Infirmary for any disorder supposed to originate from the cow-pox.

The fourth question is, Whether vaccination is increasing or decreasing?—Mr. Birch gives his opinion, that it is decreasing, at least in London; and those who want to know what is passing out of London, must not apply to Mr. Birch. He thinks one of the principal causes of this decrease is the disagreement of the two Societies instituted for its support; namely, the Vaccine Pock Institution and the Royal Jennerian Society.

He tells us, that these institutions were originally one; which, he observes, is of great importance in the present question. It is, therefore, of the greater importance, once more to correct Mr. Birch, to contradict his erroneous assertion, and to shew, that he knows very little even of what is passing *in* London.

These two societies never were united, and consequently never could separate.

Equally erroneous is his assertion, that the Jennerian Society insist on two sorts of cow-pox; at least, if he means in the human species; and it is probable that there is no person so perfectly uninformed as not to know, that there are at least two sorts in the cow.

Mr. Birch thinks the conduct of the Jennerian Society, in dismissing their inoculator, not calculated to recommend vaccination to the public. The Society, however, found that measure indispensably necessary; and are not accountable to Mr. Birch, or any other opponent, for their conduct; or for their caution against the officer whom they thought proper to discard.

With respect to the miserable print to which Mr. Birch alludes, resembling that of the bellman, no one can detest it more than I do. Mr. Birch affirms, that the practice of vaccination has been prosecuted in this metropolis with every possible attention. This I deny. He affirms, that it is incapable of realizing the advantages expected from it: this also I deny.

In his letter to the Committee of the College of Physicians, Mr. Birch tells us, the reward was given by Parliament to Dr. Jenner, because the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons appointed to examine into his discovery asserted, "that vaccination effectually secured the patient from the small-pox; that it never *was followed* by eruptions; and that it had never been known to be fatal." This is a very gross misrepresentation, and worthy of a member

of the chosen band. It was not asserted by the Committee, that vaccination was *never followed* by eruptions; but that, according to the evidence laid before the Committee, it *did not excite* them.

The Report states, that “upon the first head, a number of witnesses of *the highest character, and most extensive experience in the profession*, were examined; whose names, with the substance of their respective evidence, strongly confirmed by their general practice, as well as by that in their own families, appear in the Appendix. Nor was it for want of the testimony of several other equally respectable physicians and surgeons, whom the petitioner was desirous of producing, that many other names are not inserted; but because your Committee, after receiving *so considerable a body of evidence to the same purport, and with so little variation in opinion*, thought his case could sustain no injury, in being left to rest upon the concurring depositions of those already examined; who had both *the most ample experience of the facts, and the best means of forming a judgment upon them*.

“The result, as it appears to your Committee, which may be collected from the oral testimony of these gentlemen, with the exception of three of them, is, *that the discovery of vaccine inoculation is of the most general utility, inasmuch as it produces a milder disorder in the place of the inoculated small-pox, and one which cannot be communicated by contagion; that it does not excite other humours or disorders in the constitution; that it has not been known, in any one instance, to prove fatal; that the inoculation of it may be safely performed*



*at all times of life, which is known not to be the case with the inoculation of the small-pox, in the earliest infancy, as well as during pregnancy, and in old age, and that it tends to eradicate, and, if its use becomes universal, must absolutely extinguish one of the most destructive disorders by which the human race has been visited."*

The Report then proceeds to shew the high estimation in which vaccination is held in every part of the world; and a comparison between that practice and the inoculation of the small-pox; from which it appears, *that the mortality of the small-pox has been greater since the inoculation of that disorder was introduced than before*, in consequence of its tendency to spread infection.

The names of the physicians and surgeons which appear in the Appendix, as giving evidence in favour of the discovery, are those of Doctors Ash, Baillie, Sir George Baker, Blane, Bradley, Croft, Dale, Denman, Sir Walter Farquhar, Frampton, Lettsom, Lister, Marshall, Nelson, Pearson, Saunders, Sims (James), Skey, Taylor, Thornton, Wall, and Woodville. The names of the surgeons are, those of Messrs. Addington, Cline, Griffiths, Home, Keate, Knight, Pope, Ring, Simpson, and Taylor.

The three professional men who are stated as exceptions to the general rule are, Doctors Moseley and Rowley, and Mr. Birch. In my Answers to the first and last of these gentlemen, I have given a full explanation and refutation of their evidence; but as those Answers may not be in the possession of the readers of



the present work, I shall here offer a few remarks on the same subject.

When these gentlemen talk big about the opinions which they gave before the Committee of the House of Commons, it is necessary to remind them that the Committee did not consult them on account of their rank in the profession, or from any expectation of learning much from them; but they were dragged before the Committee, in consequence of Dr. Jenner's request; Admiral Berkeley, the Chairman of the Committee, having remarked, that as it was impossible Dr. Jenner could bring more respectable testimonies in favour of his discovery, he could not strengthen his claim by any other evidence, unless he brought forward those who were circulating reports against it. In consequence of this hint, Dr. Jenner requested, that the three gentlemen above mentioned should be summoned; and Admiral Berkeley observed, on presenting the Report of the House, that Dr. Jenner had *raked the very kennels* for evidence against himself.

In fact, such wretched evidence never came before any tribunal. Dr. Moseley stated, in Hibernian sort, that he was *not conversant* with the practice, though he had *seen a great deal of it*, and *heard much about it*. He gave his opinion, that *more time* was necessary to decide the question than the *three years* which had then elapsed; yet he has often declared, both before and since, and still declares in his writings, that *no time at all at all* is necessary to decide it; that it is an absurd experiment, not warranted by physiology or pathology, and ought to be exploded. He was, how-

ever, so candid as to admit this *truism*, that if the cow-pox is a security against the small-pox, and is mild and safe, and leaves no disorder behind it, Dr. Jenner has rendered an essential service to mankind; in other words, that *a good thing is a good thing*;—and that if Dr. Jenner has done *a good thing*, he ought to have *a good reward* for his pains.

Dr. Moseley, however, was not satisfied that vaccination was a good thing. He knew no instance in which it had proved fatal. He had ceased to investigate the subject, evidently *from despair*; he had even destroyed the information already received; and thought no more about it. But although he had *thought no more about it*, he was *inclined to think* more favourably of it: that is, he thought most favourably of it *when he did not think at all*. The fact is, that he was investigating the subject with all possible diligence and animosity, till the flaming antivaccinist in Somerset Street, who, as well as himself, threatened to explode vaccination, exploded his own brains, if he had any; and filled the chosen band with consternation.

The evidence of Dr. Rowley, as far as it was unfavourable to vaccination, was refuted by Dr. Wall; and that of Mr. Birch by Dr. Lister and Mr. Cline. One circumstance, however, is well worthy of remark, which is, that Dr. Rowley confessed *the evils attending vaccination in its infancy were corrected*; and *that he had seen those of a worse nature from the inoculation of the small-pox*; particularly *the scrofula, and abscesses in different parts, which at length proved fatal*.

As to Mr. Birch's evidence, it only went to prove,

that he knew *nothing of vaccination, and very little of the inoculation of the small-pox*; having only inoculated about two hundred in the whole course of his life. When, therefore, he and his associates, Dr. Moseley, Dr. Rowley, and the rest of the *chosen band*, attack vaccination, it is natural to appeal to the more enlightened part of the community, against the insolent and arrogant gasconades of such *pretenders*.

The letter from the President of the College of Physicians, to the Chairman of the Committee, on Dr. Jenner's petition, dated April 13, 1802, is perhaps the best answer to such attacks: "Sir, I have laid before the College the letter which I had the honour to receive from you a few days ago; and am directed by them to answer, that *the extreme mildness of the symptoms generally attendant on vaccine inoculation is such, that, as well from their individual experience, as from the evidence of others in favour of the practice, they believe it perfectly safe when properly conducted; and highly deserving the encouragement of the public, on account of the ultimate great advantage expected from it, which can only be fully established by the extended and successful experience of many years.*"

This *ultimate* advantage is the extermination of the small-pox; a disease which has been a fruitful source of emolument to medical men for a thousand years. *Hinc illæ lacrymæ.* There are too many medical men, who, if we may judge from their conduct, feel the most poignant regret, that this *millennium* is past.

Mr. Birch says, Parliament now demand the reason, "why, after *having been persuaded* to give a re-



ward for the discovery, the practice seems to decline?" and adds, "an answer to this plain question, is *all* that is required." This answer, however, it is in vain to seek for from Mr. Birch. He puts a number of ifs, which might as well be put upon any other subject, and which, being resolved in the affirmative, may prove, that Mr. Birch and the rest of the chosen band have done irreparable mischief to the community. He is right, however, in supposing, that the College of Physicians, from their education, and rank in life, will pay proper attention to the subject of this inquiry; and that the honour of the profession is safe in their hands.

As to the College of Surgeons, he is of opinion, that the method adopted by them was by no means the best for ascertaining the truth. For once I agree with him. The College of Physicians were desired to inquire into the state of vaccination, and to report their opinion upon it; and the College of Surgeons were desired to co operate with them. It is, therefore, rather surprising that they should content themselves with collecting evidence, without giving their own opinion on the subject.

That eruptions, bad arms, and deaths, should occur *after* vaccination, is not at all surprising; but it would have been satisfactory to know, that the Court of Assistants of the College of Surgeons had endeavoured to ascertain, whether these disasters occurred *in consequence* of vaccination.

Mr. Birch pretends, that Dimsdale and Sutton each of them singly, inoculated almost as many patients as



the whole amount of the vaccinated patients returned to the College. This is a ridiculous puff, which can do no harm.

He alludes to the cases which occurred at Dawlish, in the children of Sir George Dallas; who, after vaccination, were inoculated with variolous matter. The consequence was, what it often is, in those who have had the cow-pox before, or the small-pox, an inflammation of the arms, followed by an imperfect suppuration, and an anomalous eruption, of a mild and transient nature; very different from the regular small-pox. For this statement I have the authority of Dr. Borland and Mr. Ferguson, Deputy Inspectors of Hospitals; who saw and examined the cases in question. They justly remark, that similar effects may be produced in irritable habits, by the insertion of various morbid poisons; they also regret *that the inoculation of the small-pox is still permitted*; and think *that nothing but the interference of the Legislature, with some parochial regulation, can exterminate the small-pox*.

Mr. Birch asks, *what happened*, at certain places, where, as he states, several persons had the small-pox after vaccination. This is a curious question, which Mr. Birch himself might have answered.

He then says, what *has* happened in the Hertfordshire regiment, &c. *have* probably been reported to the Committee. He says, if the Committee should have *reason* to complain, that their wishes have *not been sufficiently attended to*, much *necessary* intelligence

must have been kept back. This is a discovery worthy of Mr. Birch.

He endeavours to prove, that certain children died of the cow-pock; one of whom never had it, and another was seen by a surgeon, after its recovery from vaccination, in perfect health. It afterwards died of a peripneumony. As to the others, I refer to the Report of the College of Physicians, who examined into the cases reported to them; not to the College of Surgeons, who, like their colleague Mr. Birch, and his colleagues the chosen band, seem to have taken these things upon trust.

It is rather unfair in Mr. Birch, when publishing his letters to the two Colleges, to tack them on to his other tracts on this subject; and to tie the living to *the dead*. It is not polite in him thus to renew the investigation of his former pamphlet; and to revive absurdities, which were almost forgotten. This is one method, by which an author may get a heavy article off his hands.

What convinces me that this is the case, is, that the blunders which were in his late publication, remain uncorrected. Parents are still represented by him as in a state of suspense, lest, while they are trying to preserve their children from one disease, they should *not* plunge them into another.

He still gives the same reasons as before, for not adopting the practice. First, he does not know the origin of the matter; secondly, he does not know its effects; and thirdly, he thinks it a pity to exterminate the small-pox, because it is "a merciful dispensation

of Providence to lessen the burden of a poor man's family." The folly and inhumanity of this remark are very happily pointed out in "A Letter to Mr. Birch, by a Member of the College of Surgeons," to whom I have the honour of being related. This letter, though written by a young man, is allowed by the Reviewers to be a complete answer to that veteran in practice, Mr. Birch; and a perfect refutation of all that he has advanced.

Having already expressed my opinion of his pamphlet, in my Answer to it, I shall here subjoin the Report of the College of Physicians.

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*"Report of the Royal College of Physicians of London, on Vaccination: with an Appendix, containing the Opinions of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of Edinburgh and Dublin; and of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of London, Dublin, and Edinburgh.—Ordered to be printed 8th July 1807.*

#### “ R E P O R T.

“THE Royal College of Physicians of London, having received His Majesty's commands, in compliance with an Address from the House of Commons, ‘to inquire into the state of vaccine inoculation in the united kingdom, to report their opinion and observations upon that practice, upon the evidence which has been adduced in its support, and upon the causes which have hitherto retarded its general adoption;’ have ap-



plied themselves diligently to the business referred to them.

“ Deeply impressed with the importance of an inquiry, which equally involves the lives of individuals and the public prosperity, they have made every exertion to investigate the subject fully and impartially. In aid of the knowledge and experience of the members of their own body, they have applied separately to each of the Licentiates of the College; they have corresponded with the Colleges of Physicians of Dublin and Edinburgh; with the Colleges of Surgeons of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin; they have called upon the societies established for vaccination, for an account of their practice, to what extent it has been carried on, and what has been the result of their experience; and they have, by public notice, invited individuals to contribute whatever information they had severally collected. They have in consequence been furnished with a mass of evidence communicated with the greatest readiness and candour, which enables them to speak with confidence upon all the principal points referred to them.

“ I. During eight years which have elapsed since Dr. Jenner made his discovery public, the progress of vaccination has been rapid, not only in all parts of the united kingdom, but in every quarter of the civilized world. In the British islands some hundred thousands have been vaccinated; in our possessions in the East Indies upwards of eight hundred thousand, and among the nations of Europe the practice has become general. Professional men have submitted it to



the fairest trials; and the public have, for the most part, received it without prejudice. *A few indeed have stood forth the adversaries of vaccination, on the same grounds as their predecessors who opposed the inoculation for the small pox; falsely led by hypothetical reasoning in the investigation of a subject, which must be supported, or rejected, UPON FACTS AND OBSERVATION ONLY.* With these few exceptions, the testimony in favour of vaccination has been *most strong and satisfactory*; and the practice of it, though it has received a check in some quarters, appears *still to be upon the increase in most parts of the united kingdom.*

“ II. The College of Physicians, in giving their observations and opinions on the practice of vaccination, think it right to premise, that they advance nothing but what is supported by the multiplied and unequivocal evidence which has been brought before them; and they have not considered any facts as proved, but what have been stated from actual observation.

“ Vaccination appears to be in general *perfectly safe*; the instances to the contrary being *extremely rare*. The disease excited by it is *slight*, and seldom prevents those under it from following their ordinary occupations. It has been communicated with safety to *pregnant women, to children during dentition, and in their earliest infancy*; in all which respects it possesses *material advantages over inoculation for the small-pox*: which, though productive of a disease generally mild, yet *sometimes occasions alarming symptoms, and is in a few cases fatal.*

“ The security derived from vaccination against the

small-pox, if not absolutely perfect, is as nearly so as can perhaps be expected from any human discovery; for among *several hundred thousand cases*, with the results of which the College have been made acquainted, the number of alleged failures has been *surprisingly small*, so much so, as to form certainly no reasonable objection to the general adoption of vaccination; for it appears that there are *not nearly so many failures*, in a given number of vaccinated persons, as there are *deaths in an equal number of persons inoculated for the small-pox*. Nothing can more clearly demonstrate the superiority of vaccination over the inoculation of the small-pox, than this consideration; and it is a most important fact, which has been confirmed in the course of this inquiry, that *in almost every case, where the small-pox has succeeded vaccination, whether by inoculation or by casual infection, the disease has varied much from its ordinary course; it has neither been the same in the violence, nor in the duration of its symptoms, but has, with very few exceptions, been remarkably mild, as if the small-pox had been deprived, by the previous vaccine disease, of all its usual malignity.*

“The testimonies before the College of Physicians are very decided in declaring, that vaccination does less mischief to the constitution, and less frequently gives rise to other diseases, than the small-pox, either natural or inoculated.

“The College feel themselves called upon to state this strongly, because it has been objected to vaccination, that it produces new, unheard-of, and monstrous diseases. Of such assertions *no proofs have been pro-*

duced; and, after diligent inquiry, the College believe them to have been either the inventions of designing, or the mistakes of ignorant men. In these respects then, in its mildness, its safety, and its consequences, the individual may look for the peculiar advantages of vaccination. The benefits which flow from it to society are infinitely more considerable; it *spreads no infection*, and can be *communicated only by inoculation*. It is from a consideration of the pernicious effects of the small-pox, that the real value of vaccination is to be estimated. The natural small-pox has been supposed to destroy a sixth part of all whom it attacks; and even by inoculation, where that has been general in parishes and towns, about one in three hundred has usually died. It is not sufficiently known, or not adverted to, that *nearly one-tenth*, some years *more than one-tenth*, of the whole mortality in London, is occasioned by the small-pox; and *however beneficial the inoculation of the small-pox may have been to individuals*, it appears to have kept up a constant source of contagion, which has been the means of increasing the number of deaths by what is called the *natural disease*. It cannot be doubted, that this mischief has been extended by the *inconsiderate manner*, in which great numbers of persons, even since the introduction of vaccination, are still every year inoculated with the small-pox; and afterwards required to attend two or three times a week at the place of inoculation, through every stage of their illness.

“ From this, then, the public are to expect the great and uncontroverted superiority of vaccination; that it communicates no casual infection; and, while it is a



protection to the individual, it is not prejudicial to the public.

“ III. The College of Physicians, in reporting their observations and opinions on the evidence adduced in support of vaccination, feel themselves authorized to state, that a body of evidence so large, so temperate, and so consistent, was perhaps never before collected upon any medical question. A discovery so novel, and to which there was nothing analogous known in nature, though resting on the experimental observations of the inventor, was at first received with diffidence; it was not, however, difficult for others to repeat his experiments; by which the truth of his observations was confirmed, and the doubts of the cautious were gradually dispelled by extensive experience. At the commencement of the practice, *almost all that were vaccinated, were afterwards submitted to the inoculation of the small pox*; many underwent this operation a second, and even a third time; and the uniform success of these trials quickly bred confidence in the new discovery. But the evidence of the security derived from vaccination against the small-pox, does *not rest alone upon those who afterwards underwent variolous inoculation, although amounting to many thousands*; for it appears, from numerous observations communicated to the College, that those who have been vaccinated are *equally secure against the contagion of epidemic small-pox*. Towns indeed, and districts of the country, in which vaccination had been general, have afterwards had the small-pox prevalent on all sides of them, without suffering from the contagion. There are also

in the evidence a few examples of epidemic small pox having been subdued by a general vaccination. It will not, therefore, appear extraordinary, that many who have communicated their observations should state, that though at first they thought unfavourably of the practice, experience had now removed all their doubts.

“ It has been already mentioned, that the evidence is not universally favourable, although it is in truth nearly so ; for there are *a few* who entertain sentiments differing widely from those of the great majority of their brethren. The College, therefore, deemed it their duty, in a particular manner, to inquire upon what grounds and evidence the opposers of vaccination rested their opinions. From personal examination, as well as from their writings, they endeavoured to learn the full extent and weight of their objections. They found them, *without experience in vaccination*, supporting their opinions by *hearsay information*, and *hypothetical reasoning* ; and, upon investigating the facts which they advanced, they found them to be either *misapprehended* or *misrepresented* : or that they fell under the description of cases of *imperfect small-pox*, before noticed, and which the College have endeavoured fairly to appreciate.

“ The practice of vaccination is but of eight years standing ; and its promoters, as well as opponents, must keep in mind, that a period so short is too limited to ascertain every point, or to bring the art to that perfection of which it may be capable. The truth of this will readily be admitted by those ac-

quainted with the history of inoculation for the small-pox. Vaccination is now, however, well understood ; and its character accurately described. Some deviations from the usual course have occasionally occurred ; which the author of the practice has called spurious cow-pox, by which the public have been misled, as if there were a true and a false cow-pox ; but it appears, that nothing more was meant, than to express irregularity or difference from that common form and progress of the vaccine pustule from which its efficacy is inferred. Those who perform vaccination ought therefore to be well instructed ; and should have watched with the greatest care the regular progress of the pustule, and learnt the most proper time for taking the matter. There is little doubt that some of the failures are to be imputed to the inexperience of the early vaccinators ; and it is not unreasonable to expect that farther observation will yet suggest many improvements, which will reduce the number of anomalous cases, and furnish the means of determining, with greater precision, when the vaccine disease has been effectually received.

“ Though the College of Physicians have confined themselves, in estimating the evidence, to such facts as have occurred in their own country, because the accuracy of them could best be ascertained, they cannot be insensible to the confirmation these receive from the reports of the successful introduction of vaccination, not only into every part of Europe, but throughout the vast continents of Asia and America.

“ IV. Several causes have had a partial operation, in



retarding the general adoption of vaccination ; some writers have *greatly undervalued* the security it affords, while others have considered it to be of a temporary nature only ; but if any reliance is to be placed on the statements which have been laid before the College, its power of protecting the human body from the small-pox, though not perfect indeed, is *abundantly sufficient to recommend it to the prudent and dispassionate* ; especially as the small-pox, in the few instances where it has subsequently occurred, has been generally mild and transient. The opinion that vaccination affords but a temporary security, is supported by *no analogy in nature, nor by the facts which have hitherto occurred*. Although the experience of vaccine inoculation be only of a few years, yet the same disease, contracted by the milkers of cows, in some districts, has been long enough known to ascertain, that in them, at least, the unsusceptibility of the small-pox contagion *does not wear out by time*. Another cause is, the charge against vaccination, of producing various new diseases, of frightful and monstrous appearance.

“ Representations of some of these have been exhibited in prints ; in a way to alarm the feelings of parents ; and to infuse dread and apprehension into the minds of the uninformed. Publications, with such representations, have been widely circulated ; and though they originate either in *gross ignorance*, or *wilful misrepresentation*, yet have they lessened the confidence of many, particularly of the lower classes, in vaccination ; no *permanent effects*, however, in retarding the progress of vaccination, need be apprehended

from such causes, for, as soon as the public shall view them coolly and without surprise, they will excite *contempt*, and *not fear*.

“ Though the College of Physicians are of opinion, that the progress of vaccination has been retarded in a few places, by the above causes, yet they conceive, that its general adoption has been prevented by causes far more powerful ; and of a nature wholly different. The lower orders of society can hardly be induced to adopt precautions against evils which may be at a distance ; nor can it be expected from them, if these precautions are attended with expense. Unless, therefore, from the immediate dread of epidemic small-pox, neither vaccination nor inoculation appear at any time to have been general ; and when the cause of terror has passed by, the public have relapsed again into a state of indifference and apathy ; and the salutary practice has come to a stand. It is not easy to suggest a remedy for an evil so deeply imprinted in human nature. To inform and instruct the public mind may do much ; and it will probably be found, that the progress of vaccination, in different parts of the united kingdom, will be in proportion to that instruction. Were encouragement given to vaccination, by *offering it to the poorer classes without expense*, there is little doubt but *it would in time supersede the inoculation for the small-pox* ; and thereby various sources of variolous infection would be cut off ; but till vaccination becomes general, it will be impossible to prevent the constant recurrence of the natural small-pox by means of those who are inoculated ; except it should appear proper to the

*Legislature, to adopt in its wisdom some measure, by which those who still, from terror or prejudice, prefer the small-pox to the vaccine disease, may, in thus consulting the gratification of their own feelings, be prevented from doing mischief to their neighbours.*

“ From the whole of the above considerations, the College of Physicians feel it their duty, *strongly to recommend the practice of vaccination.* They have been led to this conclusion by no preconceived opinion, but by *the most unbiassed judgment*; formed from *an irresistible weight of evidence, which has been laid before them*: for when *the number, the respectability, the disinterestedness, and the extensive experience of its advocates,* is compared with *the feeble and imperfect testimonies of its few opposers*; and when it is considered that *many, who were once adverse to vaccination, have been convinced by further trials, and are now to be ranked among its warmest supporters,* the truth seems to be established as firmly as the nature of such a question admits; so that the College of Physicians conceive, that the public may reasonably look forward with some degree of hope, to the time when all opposition shall cease, and the general concurrence of mankind shall at length be able to put an end to the ravages at least, if not to the existence, of the small-pox.

“ LUCAS PEPYS, PRESIDENT.

“ Royal College of Physicians,  
10th April 1807.

“ *Ja. Harvey, Register.*”



“ A P P E N D I X.

No. 1.

“ *To the Royal College of Physicians of London.*

“ GENTLEMEN,

“ I AM ordered by the King and Queen’s College of Physicians, in Ireland, to thank the Royal College of Physicians of London for the communication they have had the honour to receive from them, of certain propositions relative to vaccination, whereon His Majesty has been pleased to direct an inquiry to be instituted, and in the prosecution of which, the co-operation of the College in Ireland is requested.

“ I am also directed to acquaint you, that the said College having referred the investigation of these propositions to a Committee, have received from them a Report, of which the inclosed is a copy ; and that they desire the same may be considered as containing their opinion upon the subject.

“ I have the honour to be,

“ Gentlemen,

“ Your most obedient humble servant,

“ HUGH FERGUSON, Register.

“ By order of the King and  
Queen’s College of Physicians in Ireland.

“ *Dublin, 11th Nov. 1806.*

“ The practice of vaccination was introduced into this city about the beginning of the year 1801, and appears to have made inconsiderable progress at first. A variety of causes operated to retard its general adoption; amongst which the novelty of the practice, and the extraordinary effects attributed to vaccination, would naturally take the lead.

“ Variolous inoculation had been long, almost exclusively, in the hands of *a particular branch of the profession, whose prejudices and interests were strongly opposed to the new practice*; and by their being the usual medical attendants in families, and especially employed in the diseases of children, their opinions had greater effect upon the minds of parents. The small-pox is rendered a much less formidable disease in this country by the frequency of inoculation for it, than it is in other parts of His Majesty's dominions, where prejudices against inoculation have prevailed; hence parents, not unnaturally, objected to the introduction of a new disease, rather than not recur to that, with the mildness and safety of which they were well acquainted.

“ In the beginning of the year 1804, the Cow-pox Institution was established under the patronage of the Earl of Hardwicke; and it is from this period that we may date the general introduction of vaccination into this city, and throughout all parts of Ireland.

“ The success of the Institution, in forwarding the new practice, is to be attributed in a great measure to the respectability of the gentlemen who superintend it; and to the diligence, zeal, and attention of Dr.

Labatt, their secretary and inoculator. In order to shew the progress which has been made in extending vaccination, your Committee refer to the Reports of the Cow-pox Institution for the last two years; and to Extracts from their Register for the present year.

	Patients inoculated.	Packets issued to Practitioners in general.	Packets to Army Sur- geons.
1804	578	776	236
1805	1,032	1,124	178
1806	1,356	1,340	220
Total	2,966	3,240	634

“ In the above statement, the numbers are averaged to the end of the present year, on the supposition of patients resorting to the Institution as usual. The correspondence of the Institution appears to be *very general throughout every part of Ireland*; and by the accounts received, as well from medical practitioners as others, *the success of vaccination seems to be uniform and effectual*. At the present period, in the opinion of your Committee, there are few individuals in any branch of the profession, who oppose the practice of vaccination in this part of His Majesty’s dominions.

“ It is the opinion of your Committee, *that the practice of cow-pox inoculation is safe; and that it fully*



*answers all the purposes that have been intended by its introduction. At the same time, your Committee is willing to allow, that doubtful cases have been reported to them as having occurred, of persons suffering from small-pox, who had been previously vaccinated. Upon minute investigation, however, it has been found, that these supposed instances originated generally in error, misrepresentation, or the difficulty of discriminating between small-pox and other eruptions; no case having come to the knowledge of your Committee, duly authenticated by respectable and competent judges, of genuine small-pox succeeding the regular vaccine disease.*

*“ The practice of vaccination becomes every day more extended; and, when it is considered that the period at which it came into general use in Ireland is to be reckoned from so late a date, your Committee is of opinion, that it has made already as rapid a progress as could be expected,*

(Signed) “ JAMES CLEGHORN.

“ DANIEL MILLS.

“ HUGH FERGUSON.”

No. 2.

*Physicians' Hall, Edinburgh, 26th Nov. 1806.*

“ GENTLEMEN,

“ THE Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh have but little opportunity themselves of making observations on vaccination; as that practice is entirely

conducted by surgeon apothecaries, and other medical practitioners not of their College; and *as the effects produced by it are so inconsiderable and slight, that the aid of a physician is never required.*

“The College know, *that in Edinburgh it is universally approved of by the profession, and by the higher and middle ranks of the community; and that it has been much more generally adopted by the lower orders of the people than ever the inoculation for small-pox was; and they believe the same to obtain all over Scotland.*

“With regard to any causes which have hitherto prevented its general adoption, *they are acquainted with none, except the negligence or ignorance of parents among the common people; or their mistaken ideas of the impropriety or criminality of being accessory to the production of any disease among their children; or the difficulty or impossibility, in some of our country districts, of procuring vaccine matter, or a proper person to inoculate.*

“*The evidence in favour of vaccination appeared to the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh so STRONG AND DECISIVE, that in May last, they spontaneously and unanimously elected Dr. Jenner an honorary fellow of their College;—a mark of distinction which they very rarely confer, and which they confine almost exclusively to foreign physicians of the first eminence.*

“They did this, with a view to publish their opinion with regard to vaccination; and *in testimony of their conviction of the immense benefits which have been, and which will in future be derived to the world, from inocu-*

*lation for the cow-pox ; and as a mark of their sense of Dr. Jenner's very great merits and ability in introducing and promoting this invaluable practice.*

“ I have the honour to be,

“ Gentlemen,

“ Your most obedient humble servant,

“ TH. SPENS, C. R. M. E<sup>d</sup> Pr.

“ To the Royal College of  
Physicians in London.”

- No. 3.

“ AT a Special Court of Assistants of the Royal College of Surgeons, convened by order of the Master, and holden at the College on Tuesday the 17th day of March 1807 ;

“ Mr. Governor LUCAS in the chair :

“ Mr. LONG, as Chairman of the Board of Curators, reported, That the Board are now ready to deliver their Report on the subject of vaccination.

“ It was then moved, seconded, and resolved, That a Report from the Board of Curators, on the subject of vaccination, which was referred to their consideration by the Court of Assistants, on the 21st day of November last, be now received.

“ Mr. Long then delivered to Mr. Governor Lucas (presiding in the absence of the Master) a Report from the Board of Curators.

“ It was then moved, seconded, and resolved, That



the Report, delivered by Mr. Long, be now read; and it was read accordingly, and is as follows :

“ To the Court of Assistants of the Royal College of Surgeons in London.

“ The Report of the Board of Curators, on the Subject of Vaccination, referred to them by the Court, on the 21st Day of November 1806; made to the Court on the 17th of March 1807.

“ THE Court of Assistants, having received a letter from the Royal College of Physicians of London, addressed to this College, stating, that His Majesty had been graciously pleased, in compliance with an address from the Honourable House of Commons, to direct his Royal College of Physicians of London to inquire into the state of vaccination in the united kingdom, to report their observations and opinion upon that practice, upon the evidence adduced in its support, and upon the causes which have hitherto retarded its general adoption; that the College were then engaged in the investigation of the several propositions thus referred to them, and requesting this College to co-operate and communicate with them, in order that the Report thereupon might be made as complete as possible :

“ And having, on the 21st day of November last, referred such letter to the consideration of the Board of Curators, with authority to take such steps respecting the contents thereof as they shall judge proper, and

report their proceedings thereon, from time to time, to the Court :—The Board proceeded, with all possible dispatch, to the consideration of the subject.

“ The Board being of opinion, that it would be proper to address circular letters to members of the College, with a view of collecting evidence, they submitted to the consideration of the Court, holden on the 15th day of December last, the drafts of such letter as appeared to them best calculated to answer that end; and the same having been approved by the Court, they caused copies thereof to be sent to all the members of the College in the united-kingdom, whose residence could be ascertained, in the following form, viz.

“ SIR,

“ The Royal College of Surgeons being desirous of co-operating with the Royal College of Physicians of London, in obtaining information respecting vaccination, submit to you the following questions, to which the favour of your answer is requested.

“ By order of the Court of Assistants,

“ OKEY BELFOUR, Secretary.”

*Lincoln's Inn Fields,*

*Dec. 15, 1806.*

“ 1st, How many persons have you vaccinated ?

“ 2d, Have any of your patients had the small-pox after vaccination ? In the case of every such occurrence, at what period was the vaccine matter taken from the vesicle ? How was it preserved ? How long

before it was inserted? What was the appearance of the inflammation? And what the interval between vaccination and the variolous eruption?

“ 3d, Have any bad effects occurred in your experience, in consequence of vaccination? And if so, what were they?

“ 4th, Is the practice of vaccination increasing or decreasing in your neighbourhood? if decreasing, to what cause do you impute it?”

“ To such letters the Board have received 426 answers: and the following are the results of their investigation:

“ The number of persons, stated in such letters to have been vaccinated, is 164,381.

“ The number of cases in which small-pox had followed vaccination is 56.

“ The Board think it proper to remark under this head, that, in the enumeration of cases in which the small-pox has succeeded vaccination, they have included none but those in which the subject was vaccinated by the surgeon reporting the facts.

“ The bad consequences which have arisen from vaccination are, eruptions of the skin in 66 cases, and inflammation of the arm in 24 instances, of which three proved fatal.

“ Vaccination, in the greater number of counties from which reports have been received, appears to be increasing; it may be proper however to remark, that, in the metropolis, it is on the decrease.

“ The principal reasons assigned for the decrease are,



“ Imperfect vaccination,

“ Instances of small-pox after vaccination,

“ Supposed bad consequences,

“ Publications against the practice,

“ Popular prejudices.

“ And such Report having been considered, it was moved, seconded, and

“ Resolved, That the Report now read, be adopted by this Court, as the answer of the Court to the letter of the Royal College of Physicians, of the 23d day of October last, on the subject of vaccination.

“ Resolved, That a copy of these minutes and resolutions, signed by Mr. Governor Lucas (presiding at this Court in the absence of the Master), be transmitted by the secretary to the register of the Royal College of Physicians.

(Signed) “ WM. LUCAS.”

No. 4.

“ SIR, *Edinburgh, March 5d, 1807.*

“ I MENTIONED in my former letter, that I would take the earliest opportunity of laying before the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, the communication with which the Royal College of Physicians of London had honoured them, on the 23d of October last.

“ I am now directed by the Royal College to send the following answer on that important subject.

“ The practice of vaccine inoculation, both in private, and at the Vaccine Institution established here in

1801, is increasing so rapidly, that for two or three years past, the small pox has been reckoned rather a rare occurrence, even amongst the lower orders of the inhabitants of this city, unless in some particular quarters about twelve months ago; and, among the higher ranks of the inhabitants, the disease is unknown.

“ The Members of the Royal College of Surgeons have much pleasure in reporting, That, as far as their experience goes, they have no doubt of the permanent security against the small-pox which is produced by the constitutional affection of the cow-pox; and that such has hitherto been their success in vaccination, as also to gain for it the confidence of the public, inasmuch that they have not been required, for some years past, to inoculate any person with small-pox, who had not previously undergone the inoculation with the cow-pox.

“ The Members of the Royal College have met with no occurrence in their practice of cow-pox inoculation, which could operate in their minds to its disadvantage; and they beg leave particularly to notice, that they have seen no instance of obstinate eruptions; or of new and dangerous diseases, which they could attribute to the introduction among mankind of this mild preventive of small-pox. The Royal College of Surgeons know of no causes which have hitherto retarded the adoption of vaccine inoculation here; on the contrary, the practice has become general within this city; and from many thousand packets of vaccine matter having been sent by the Members of the Royal College, and the Vaccine Institution here, to all parts of the country, the Royal Col-

lege have reason to believe that the practice has been as generally adopted throughout this part of the united kingdom, as could have been expected from the distance of some parts of the country from proper medical assistance, and other circumstances of that nature.

“ I have the honour to be, Sir,

“ Your most obedient servant,

“ WM. FARQUHARSON,

“ President of the Royal College  
and Incorporation of Surgeons,  
of Edinburgh.”

No. 5.

*Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland,*

“ SIR, *Dublin, February 4th, 1807.*

“ I AM directed to transmit to you the inclosed Report of a Committee of the College of Surgeons in Ireland, to whom was referred a letter from the Royal College of Physicians in London, relative to the present state of vaccination in this part of the united kingdom; and to state, that the College of Surgeons will be highly gratified by more frequent opportunities of corresponding with the English College of Physicians, on any subject which may conduce to the advancement of science, and the welfare of the public.

“ I have the honour to be, Sir,

“ Your most obedient,

“ Humble servant,

“ JAMES HENTHORN, Secretary.”



“ At a meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, holden at their Theatre, on Tuesday the 13th day of January 1807;

FRANCIS M'EVoy, Esq. President :

“ Mr. Johnson reported from the Committee, to whom was referred a letter from the College of Physicians, London, relative to the present state of vaccination in the united kingdom, &c. &c. that they met, and came to the following resolutions :

“ That it appears to this Committee, that inoculation with vaccine infection is now *very generally adopted by the surgical practitioners in this part of the united kingdom, as a preventive of small-pox.*

“ That it appears to this Committee, that from the 25th day of March 1800 to the 25th of November 1806, 11,504 persons have been inoculated with vaccine infection at the Dispensary for Infant Poor, and 2,831 at the Cow-pox Institution, making a total of 14,335, exclusive of the number inoculated at hospitals and other places, where no registry is made and preserved.

“ That it is the opinion of this Committee, that *the cow-pox has been found to be a mild disease, and rarely attended with danger, or any alarming symptom; and that the few cases of small-pox which have occurred in this country, after supposed vaccination, have been satisfactorily proved to have arisen from accidental circumstances; and cannot be attributed to the want of efficacy*

*in the genuine vaccine infection, as a preventive of small-pox.*

“ That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the causes which have hitherto retarded the more general adoption of vaccination in Ireland, have, in a great measure, proceeded from *the prejudices of the lower classes of people, and the interest of some irregular practitioners.*

“ To which Report the College agreed.

“ Extract from the Minutes.

“ JAMES HENTHORN, Secretary.”

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This Report is highly flattering to vaccination, and highly honourable to the learned and enlightened body, by whom it was drawn up. It will, no doubt, prove satisfactory to the Great Council of the Nation; but it is unreasonable to expect that it will prove satisfactory to Dr. Moseley and Mr. Birch, who have already expressed a contrary opinion, and staked their reputation on the result.

It is unreasonable to expect that the Report will prove satisfactory to those who are charged in that Report with *substituting their own false, foolish, and hypothetical reasoning*, instead of experience and observation; and who are branded in the face of the whole world, as *ignorant and designing men.*

It is unreasonable to expect, that the Report will prove satisfactory to those who are told in the Report that their testimonies are feeble and imperfect; that

they are few in comparison of their brethren who entertain a different opinion, who are *more respectable* and *more disinterested*, who have had *more extensive experience*, and *whose weight of evidence is irresistible*; that the College *strongly recommend* the practice which they so strongly *reprobate*; that many practitioners, once adverse to vaccination, are *now convinced of their error by further trials*, and ranked among its warmest supporters; that the truth seems to be established as far as the nature of such a question admits, and that the public may look forward with some degree of hope to the time when all opposition shall cease, and the general concurrence of mankind shall at length be able to put an end to the ravages at least, if not to the existence, of the small-pox.

It is unreasonable to expect, that the Report of the College will prove satisfactory to those, who are told, that they have been creating false alarms in the minds of the ignorant, by the circulation of lying pamphlets, and lying prints, originating either in gross ignorance or wilful misrepresentation; that in these pamphlets and prints they have represented new, unheard-of, and monstrous diseases, which, they falsely pretend, arise from vaccination; that they have wounded the sensibility of parents, and murdered children, by lessening the confidence of many persons, particularly those of the lower class, in vaccination; and when they are told, that the unprincipled efforts of their selfishness and malignity which have created so much apprehension, and excited so much alarm in the minds of the ignorant and uninformed, will, in a short



time, not be regarded with fear, but with contempt.

It is unreasonable to expect, that the Report will prove satisfactory to those, who are informed in that Report, that the practice of vaccination, though it has received a check in some quarters, from their unjustifiable hostility, still appears to be upon the increase in most parts of the united kingdom ; that its adoption is retarded in some places by the negligence and ignorance of parents ; and in others, by the rooted prejudices, and self-interested opposition, of despicable pretenders.

It may be some consolation to the antivaccinists, in their fallen and forlorn state, to know, that they have still one subterfuge left. One of their brother-empirics has seasonably discovered, or at least pretends he has discovered, what he has talked of discovering ever since the introduction of the cow-pox, a *mild species of small-pox*.

For the sake of those who are not to be deluded by such a gross and palpable imposition, I shall here state the advantages of vaccination, as far as they are deducible from the Report of the College.

It is perfectly safe ; and so mild, that it seldom prevents the patient from following his ordinary occupation. It may be communicated with safety to pregnant women, and to children at the time of dentition, or as soon as they are born.

The number of failures in vaccination is *surprisingly small*. The instances in which the small-pox occurs after it, are *not nearly so numerous as those in which*

*death occurs in the inoculation of the small-pox*; and it is also an additional advantage, that when the small-pox occurs after vaccination, it commonly appears in a mitigated form; and deprived of all its malignity.

It is very decidedly ascertained, that vaccination does less injury to the constitution, and is less apt to occasion other diseases, than the small-pox, whether natural, or in the way of inoculation.

While the private advantages of vaccination are so great, inasmuch as it is more mild, more safe, and more free from ill consequences, the public advantages are still greater, since it protects the individuals, without spreading any casual infection. On the contrary, the inoculation of the small-pox keeps up a constant source of contagion; and increases the mortality of the natural disease. This evil is aggravated by the inconsiderate manner in which great numbers of patients are inoculated for the small-pox, even since the introduction of vaccination; and then required to attend at the place of inoculation twice or three times a week, through the whole course of the disorder.

These facts, founded on the most incontrovertible evidence, are sufficient to prove the vast superiority of vaccine inoculation; and if mankind are just to themselves and to posterity, it will ultimately fulfil the sanguine expectations of its advocates, by superseding the inoculation, and the ravages, if not the existence, of the small-pox.

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From the preceding statement it appears, that the benefits which will follow from vaccination are incalculable; and that the compliment paid to Dr. Jenner by Mr. Addington, Chancellor of the Exchequer, when the subject was under discussion the first time, in the House of Commons, is no more than his due,—*that no pecuniary reward can be adequate to the service*, which the author of this discovery has rendered to the state.

The inadequacy of the remuneration first granted was generally acknowledged; and many persons, who were sensible of Dr. Jenner's high desert, proposed a national subscription, in aid of that remuneration; particularly the celebrated Dr. Beddoes. In the Medical Journal for July 1802, he acknowledges his original scepticism, his subsequent conversion, the high sense which he then entertained of Dr. Jenner's discovery; and his mortification at the inadequacy of the parliamentary reward. He then proposes a subscription, to which he thought it probable, those members of parliament, who were the most sparing of the public purse, would be the first to contribute. My opinion however is, that they would be the last.

Subscriptions for this purpose have been opened in India, by the suggestion of that truly patriotic character, the late Marquis Cornwallis; who thereby expressed his opinion, that his countrymen had been deficient in gratitude to their great benefactor. For this defect, however, they now seem disposed to compensate.

England is not the only country that is sensible of



its obligation to Dr. Jenner ; as one proof of which, I shall here state the substance of a memoir inserted in the General Medical Journal of Paris, for March 1807, by Dr. Valentin of Marseilles.

In this memoir Dr. Valentin observes, that “ it is now thirty years since Dr. Jenner began to inquire into the nature of the cow-pox ; ten since he ascertained its efficacy, as a preventive of the small-pox ; nine since he published an account of his valuable discovery ; and seven since the practice of vaccination was introduced into France. It is now propagated over almost every part of the globe ; many millions have experienced its beneficial effects ; and every day is marked with numerous and uniform instances of its success.

“ Before the expiration of two years, the question appeared to be perfectly decided ; and at present there remains not the least doubt of the possibility of annihilating, by means of vaccination, the most dreadful, and the most destructive of all diseases.

“ Have we not been sensible, from its very commencement, that this discovery is invaluable, and, beyond all comparison, the most important that has ever been made for the welfare and happiness of mankind ? Have we not been eager to adopt it, and to propagate it as much as possible, and by all possible means ? Did we not readily renounce the inoculation of the small-pox, the moment we were convinced inoculation of the cow-pock, was a certain security against that disease ? Being destined by Government, to be the guardians of the public health, we have the con-

solation to reflect, that we have neglected nothing in this respect, which could co-operate with the general design. Truth, often slow in its progress, has triumphed, through our common efforts, with astonishing rapidity.

“ What thanks are due to the author of this new discovery ! All nations bless his name. Every country, every city is anxious to offer him a civic crown ; and every individual to express his gratitude. No mortal ever rendered such services to society ! No reward, no dignity, can be an adequate remuneration for such a benefit as this ! The noble and disinterested manner in which Jenner diffused the light of his discovery, and the ardour which he manifested in publishing the results of his experiments, are above all praise.

“ When he meditated a grand revolution in this important branch of the healing art, and the good of his fellow-creatures, by so simple, so singular, and so extraordinary a practice, he did not consider his time nor the labour which he bestowed on his discovery ; nor the expense occasioned by an extensive correspondence, provided it were crowned with success.”

The physicians of France have not been the last to proclaim him *the Benefactor of mankind* ; and this title is confirmed by the opinion of the public. The Central Committee of Vaccination, established at Paris under the auspices of Government, to which France is indebted for the first experiments in this new species of inoculation, and for the happy fruits of

their zealous exertions, declare in their Report published in 1803, that the Committee cannot conclude this account of their labours, without paying, in the name of the subscribers, a just tribute of acknowledgment to the illustrious author of the discovery, Dr. Jenner; who will hereafter be ranked among those, who have reflected the greatest honour on science, and rendered the most essential service to humanity.

“ The reward which the British parliament granted to Dr. Jenner in 1802, though accompanied with the most flattering encomiums, is very inadequate to the incalculable advantages which will be derived from this discovery. That the English nation, in the reign of Queen Anne, loaded the Duke of Marlborough with honours, gave him his estate at Woodstock, as a reward for his military exploits, built a splendid and magnificent seat for him at Blenheim, and erected on an eminence in his park a superb monument, whose base bears witness to his achievements, and whose summit supports his statue, is not at all surprising; but it is surprising, that since the year 1802, this same nation has done nothing more for Dr. Jenner.

“ Dr. Valentin observes, however, that the city of London has presented him with its freedom; and that the people of Bengal and Madras, struck with the smallness of the remuneration granted by parliament, were about to open a subscription, which they intended to present to Dr. Jenner as a token of their gratitude.

“ Jenner,” says Dr. Valentin, “ like Hippocrates,



is become a citizen of the world ; he belongs to all nations. His name is eternal ; and will live to the latest posterity. It is the present generation that ought to confer on him a great reward. May this reward be worthy of one of the most splendid eras of the world ! May the French nation, which knows how to value what is important, not defer it too long !

“ For these reasons, I now propose to all the societies, which are formed in the French empire for the progress and improvement of the healing art ;

“ 1st, To open a subscription, with the consent, and under the patronage of Government, in favour of Dr. Jenner.

“ 2d, That the Committee of the Central Society of Vaccination, and the Medical Societies in the metropolis, shall have the exclusive privilege of determining the nature of the remuneration, which shall be decreed to this great man.

“ 3d, That these Societies shall each depute one of its members, to present a project for this purpose ; and obtain leave of the Minister of the Interior, to solicit the Medical Societies in the departments, to contribute towards this fund by their voluntary subscriptions.

“ 4th, That every learned society, particularly those who cultivate the healing art, and every member of a Committee of Vaccination, shall be at liberty to concur in this design.

“ 5th, At the period fixed for closing the subscriptions, the Committee formed by the societies in Paris,

shall nominate deputies to go to England, whenever circumstances and Government permit, in order to present this token of our respect to Dr. Jenner.

“ 6th, The same Committee shall also determine on the time and place, where a statue shall be erected to him.

“ 7th, It is presumed, that the Medical Societies will, without delay, place the bust of Jenner by the side of those of Hippocrates, and Napoleon the First.”

If any further testimonials can be required to shew the immense advantage of vaccination, the two following will be abundantly sufficient.

#### “ VACCINE INOCULATION.

“ AT a numerous meeting of the Medical Gentlemen of Liverpool, convened in the Board Room of the Infirmary, on Tuesday the 29th of April 1806, for the purpose of taking into consideration certain Resolutions on the subject of Vaccine Inoculation, which had been previously drawn up by a Committee, consisting of the following Gentlemen, viz. Dr. Rutter, Dr. Lyon, Dr. Bostock, Dr. Briggs, Mr. Park, and Mr. James Dawson, Secretary ;

“ Dr. BRANDRETH in the Chair ;

“ It was unanimously resolved,

“ I. That the subjoined declaratory resolutions be adopted.

“ II. That the said resolutions be presented to those professional gentlemen in town who were not present at the meeting, for their sanction and signatures; that when those signatures are obtained, the proceedings of this meeting, together with the resolutions, be inserted once in each of the Liverpool newspapers; and that two thousand copies of the proceedings and resolutions be printed for general circulation.

“ III. That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Committee above-named, for their trouble in drawing up the said resolutions.

“ IV. That the thanks of this meeting be given to Dr. Brandreth, for his cool and patient attention and conduct in the chair, during a long discussion of this important subject.

“ JOSEPH BRANDRETH, Chairman.

#### “ RESOLUTIONS.

“ We, the undersigned, being impressed with a strong conviction, that the advantages of vaccine inoculation are, in many important circumstances, greatly superior to those of inoculation for the small-pox, and being desirous of extending and diffusing these advantages as widely as possible in this town and neighbourhood, where vaccination has hitherto been practised to a less extent, in proportion to the population, than in many other parts of the kingdom, and even of this county, have agreed to the following resolutions, as declaratory of our sentiments on this most interesting subject, viz.



“ Resolution I. That, in our opinion, inoculation for the cow-pock affords to the human constitution a protection against the contagion of the small-pox, as complete and effectual, as can possibly be derived from inoculation for the small-pox.

“ Resolution II. That, in our opinion, inoculation for the cow-pock is greatly preferable to inoculation for the small-pox, for the following reasons :—

“ 1st, Because the disease produced by vaccination not only is never fatal, but is never even attended with danger ; whilst, on the contrary, it is well known, that, of such as have been inoculated for the small-pox, some have occasionally died, notwithstanding every precaution ; and it is equally notorious, that in those who have passed through the inoculated small-pox, the disease has been sometimes dangerous and severe, and its effects on the constitution have been often permanently injurious, by exciting other diseases into action.

“ 2dly, Because the vaccine disease is not infectious, as the small-pox always is, whether it be received naturally, or by inoculation.

“ 3dly, Because it may be communicated with perfect safety, under circumstances which render the small-pox inoculation peculiarly formidable ; as in the state of pregnancy, and during infancy, and the period of dentition.

“ And lastly, Because it has never been followed, in any instance that has yet come to our knowledge, by any effects of a serious nature. Cutaneous eruptions have occurred in a few instances after vaccina-

tion here as well as elsewhere ; but it has by no means been proved, that such eruptions are fairly to be ascribed to vaccination as their cause. In this opinion we are confirmed, by the public testimony of the ablest and most respectable practitioners in the metropolis, who have paid close attention to this subject, and who have declared, that ‘ many well-known cutaneous diseases, and some scrofulous complaints, have been represented as the effects of vaccine inoculation, when, in fact, they have originated from other causes, and in many instances have occurred long after vaccination ; and that such diseases are infinitely less frequent after vaccination than after either the natural or inoculated small-pox.’

“ Resolution III. That, influenced by these powerful considerations, we feel it to be our incumbent duty to discourage the practice of inoculation for the small-pox ; being firmly convinced that it does not present to us one single advantage which cannot be obtained with equal certainty, and without any danger, by vaccine inoculation ; and that it prolongs the existence, and extends the ravages, of a most destructive disease, which vaccine inoculation promises ultimately to exterminate.

“ As an additional reason for this resolution, we think it necessary to state, that it appears from authentic documents, and from calculations founded upon them, which were produced in evidence by respectable professional gentlemen, when they were examined on this subject by a Committee of the House of Commons in the year 1802, that the mortality of

the small-pox has been increased since the introduction of inoculation ; and this mortality has prevailed to such an extent, that not less than thirty-four thousand individuals have annually perished by that disease alone, in the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

“ For these reasons we give a decided preference to vaccine inoculation ; and we are determined to use all our influence to promote the practice of it in this town and neighbourhood as extensively as possible, among all ranks and classes of society.

<i>John Ball,</i>	<i>James Dawson,</i>
<i>Edward Barnes,</i>	<i>Robert Fleetwood,</i>
<i>Francis Baron,</i>	<i>Richard Forshaw,</i>
<i>Oliver Barron, M. D.</i>	<i>James Gerard, M. D.</i>
<i>W. Barrow, M. D.</i>	<i>W. Gresley,</i>
<i>S. Beetenson, M. D.</i>	<i>Tho. Fairfax Hay,</i>
<i>John Bostock, M. D.</i>	<i>H. B. Hensman,</i>
<i>Jos. Brandreth, M. D.</i>	<i>Thomas Houghton,</i>
<i>Jos. P. Brandreth, M. B.</i>	<i>John Hicks,</i>
<i>Jos. Brandreth,</i>	<i>L. J. Jardine, M. D.</i>
<i>W. Briggs, M. D.</i>	<i>Thomas Jeffreys, M. D.</i>
<i>S. Bromley,</i>	<i>Robert Lewin, M. D.</i>
<i>Rt. Buddicom,</i>	<i>James C. Lynch, M. D.</i>
<i>Rob. Buchanan, M. D.</i>	<i>Peter Lindsay,</i>
<i>Christopher Buck,</i>	<i>John Lyon, M. D.</i>
<i>Jas. Carson, M. D.</i>	<i>John M'Cartney, M. D.</i>
<i>Thomas Christian,</i>	<i>George Mather,</i>
<i>Law. Cotham,</i>	<i>John M' Cullock,</i>
<i>John P. Dale,</i>	<i>Patrick M'Dermot,</i>



J. M'Gowan,	C. Shuttleworth,
Henry Park,	Robert Simon,
Wm. Perry,	O. Thomas,
J. W. Pursell, M. D.	M. Timons,
Wm. Lucas Reay,	T. Stewart Trail, M. D.
Thomas Renwick, M. D.	Jos. Vigneaux,
John Rutter, M. D.	C. Worthington."
John Shaw,	

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### REV. MR. REED'S TESTIMONIAL.

#### " *Cow-Pock Inoculation.*

" The following Facts are laid before the Public for the Encouragement of those who entertain any Doubt respecting the Efficacy and Success of Vaccine Inoculation ; and to confirm others in their good Opinion of *that inestimable Blessing.*

" In March 1800, having previously informed myself of the safety and efficacy of the cow-pock, I began to inoculate my two parishes Leckhamstead and Akeley, near Buckingham. I was induced to do this *at that particular time*, because the Grand Junction Canal was in its progress to my immediate neighbourhood, which, like every other great work employing vast bodies of men from distant quarters, would probably introduce the small-pox. It was my wish, that the labourers of these parishes should have the benefit of the high wages given on such occasions, without being exposed to the danger of that dreadful pestilence.

“ Having been in the habit of administering medicines to the poor, my offer to inoculate them was very generally accepted; and especially as most of these people are employed in milking. The *common* answer of such persons to my proposal was, ‘ *We all know that nobody EVER DIED OF THE COW-POCK, and we all know that nobody EVER HAD THE SMALL-POX after it: but what an odd thing it is, that any body should think of INOCULATING with it!*’

“ For *my part* I thought it very odd, these two facts being so generally known, that no one should have attempted it sooner.

“ I had no intention of proceeding in this practice beyond my own parishes; but I was soon applied to by a clergyman, to whom I have been more than twenty years curate, to inoculate at Greens Norton, near Towcester, the small-pox having broken out in two families. I readily consented, on condition that he would prepare the minds of the people, to whom I was but little known. In this he met with opposition, and in the result, about *five hundred* persons were inoculated with the *small-pox*, and *twenty-eight* by me, with the *cow-pock*.

“ I started the same day as the hired inoculator. On the eighth I inspected the parties, and finding that they were all decidedly infected with the *cow-pock*, I desired them to give what assistance they could to the people, who were falling very fast with the *small-pox*, and in great distress for nurses; *two hundred*, at one time, being in a helpless condition. Of these *twenty-eight* patients of mine, many slept with *small-pox*

patients, and even with some, who died in a most dreadful condition.

“ The neighbouring villages were satisfied with this test, and in the following month I inoculated more than *one thousand* persons, who were apprehensive, that a very great fair at Towcester, on old May-day, would spread the *small-pox* over the whole surrounding country.

“ On the application of clergymen and other respectable inhabitants, I have inoculated, within ten miles of my residence, upwards of *four thousand seven hundred* persons, many in situations greatly exposed to infection.

“ In the Autumn 1804, the *small-pox* raging among the people employed at the tunnel of the Grand Junction Canal, I inoculated in the neighbouring towns of Stoke-Bruern, Shuttlehanger, and Paulerspury, *five hundred and seventy*. In the Summer of 1805 I inoculated *two hundred and seventy* at Potterspury, the *small-pox* being at that time in two houses of the village.

“ In the whole of my practice I have inflexibly avoided accepting any fee or present, except in two instances, where I had no choice. I am therefore not to be treated otherwise than as an independent evidence. In that character I make the following declarations:—

“ 1st, After a practice of more than six years no instance has occurred of any one inoculated by me being afterwards infected with the *small-pox*.



“ 2dly, I never, during that period, have seen a single arm, that required surgical assistance, or any other dressing further than a little oil, or milk and water.

“ 3dly, I never knew an instance of a life being endangered, or a taint left in the constitution by the cow-pock. On the contrary, I can produce persons, who date a period of health, unknown before, from the turn of the cow-pock : the disease having apparently a tendency to cleanse the constitution.

“ If any candid person wishes to be more fully informed, let him devote a fortnight to the full investigation of this statement *on the spot* ; I promise him the use of my lists, and recommendations to fit persons in every parish where I have set my foot : and this is the only method I propose of supporting the above assertions ; as local benefit to my neighbours, and not public fame or emolument, has been the object of

“ J. T. A. REED,

“ Curate of Leckhamstead and Akeley.”

Nov. 8th, 1806.

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From the foregoing observations it must appear evident to every impartial reader, that Vaccination, while it is productive of so many and such great advantages, is scarcely attended with the least danger ; but if an antivaccinist can prove it to be otherwise, I should answer, in the words of Hotspur,—“ The purpose you undertake is dangerous ; ”—“ why that’s cer-

tain: 'tis dangerous to take a cold, to sleep, to drink; but I tell you, my lord fool, out of this nettle, danger, we pluck this flower, safety."

I long ago received from Dr. Themmen, the principal physician at Amsterdam, the copy of a Discourse which he delivered, as President of the Vaccine Institution in that city, at its first annual meeting, in the English Church, on the first of November 1804.

His motto is,

*Incluta vaccinae inveniens arcana, salutis  
Jennerus certam monstrat inire viam.*

This discourse having roused many of his hearers from that state of torpor and indifference, in which they had remained too long, Dr. Themmen had it printed and circulated at his own expense, in order to render it more extensively useful. I shall here give a translation of a few extracts from this work, in order to confirm what I have already so often advanced on this subject.

He bestows a just encomium on variolous inoculation; but observes, that however beneficial to those individuals who submitted to it, it was never likely to effect the extermination of that dreadful scourge of mankind, the small-pox; which, he is confident, vaccine inoculation will ultimately accomplish.

He is of opinion, that those who introduced the inoculation of the small-pox, have an undoubted claim to the gratitude of the public; but that it ought

no longer to be practised, because vaccination affords equal security against future infection, without being prejudicial to the community at large.

After expatiating on the ravages of the small-pox, he observes, that before the introduction of variolous inoculation, many countries were, for a long time, free from the disease; whereas now scarcely a village, however obscure or remote, can for any length of time escape infection. He relates some instances, in which infection was communicated to persons at a very considerable distance, by means of letters and clothes; and then alludes to a remarkable case, which occurred at Chelwood; and which is recorded in the London Magazine for 1752.

The grave-digger, having opened a grave, in which a man was buried who died of the small-pox about thirty years before, found an oaken coffin, which was scarcely damaged. The lid being forced open, a very uncommon stench issued from it; such as he never met with before. A short time after, all those persons who were present when the grave was opened, were seized with the small-pox; and, as their number was considerable, the infection soon spread through the village; and also through several other neighbouring towns, in which no trace of the small-pox had appeared for many years before.

Dr. Themmen corroborates the opinion of our English physicians, that the inoculation of the small-pox was detrimental to the community at large. He then pronounces a well-merited eulogium on Dr. Jenner's discovery; and, on the authority of Dr.



Koning, states a striking fact, similar to that published long ago by Dr. Barry of Cork ; that for more than a century, it has been a custom for the farmers' wives in Jutland, to let their daughters infect themselves with vaccine virus, by handling the nipples of the cows when labouring under the disorder ; in order to preserve their beauty.

Dr. Themmen thinks Dr. Jenner's experiments must convince every man, who is open to conviction ; and that no one at the present day will deny their truth, but those who are puffed up with pride and self-conceit ; and who, after once hazarding an opinion, are too proud to retract it.

He observes, that this blessing of Providence is now imparted to every country, which has any intercourse with civilized nations ; and that it is extensively practised in every nation under heaven. And who, says he, among a civilized people, would still have the presumption to doubt, whether this divine gift has the power of being a permanent security against the small-pox ?

“ Dr. Le Roy, Professor at Antwerp, Dr. Kuster and others in Germany, and the Central Committee of Vaccination at Paris, have proved by the most satisfactory and decisive experiments, that those who have undergone vaccination are rendered insusceptible of the small-pox. Many of them have since been made to sleep in the same beds with those who had small-pox in the most violent degree, and were then in the highest state of infection ; some were several times inoculated with small-pox matter ; and others were

suffered daily to associate with those who had that disorder; to eat from the same plate, and to drink from the same cup, but without receiving infection. Some of them swallowed dry small-pox matter; and others wore the shirts of those who had died of the small-pox, for several days; yet they all escaped infection.

“ The Minister of the Interior in France has written a letter to the Vaccine Institution in Paris, acquainting them, that at the Island of Reunion, six black children had been vaccinated, and that with the matter obtained from these children, the operation had been performed on more than five thousand other persons. Those children were afterwards carried on board a ship, which was infected with the small-pox. They remained there three months; eating and drinking every day out of the same vessels with those who had the small-pox. They also slept with those labouring under it; and were afterwards twice inoculated with matter taken from two sailors who died of the disorder; notwithstanding which they received not the least injury. They also remained a fortnight, in the place where quarantine is performed, among twenty blacks, who had the natural small-pox in the most violent degree, of whom six died; without their health being in the least impaired.”

Dr. Themmen gives an account of similar experiments, attended with similar success, in various parts of the world; and adds the copy of a letter from Paris, from which it appears, that when he delivered his discourse, France had made a much more con-

siderable progress in vaccination than England has yet done. Sixty-seven prefects had complied with the orders of Government, and the archbishops and bishops had most zealously co-operated in the design; insomuch that, within the period of six months, 67,676 persons had been successfully vaccinated, and the ravages of the small-pox were restrained.

Dr. Themmen informs us, that “in almost every country, where the efficacy of vaccination is ascertained, the inoculation of the small-pox was soon entirely abolished. The King of Denmark had issued a proclamation, stating, that, on account of the benefits arising from vaccination, the inoculation of the small-pox ought in future to be considered as a culpable and improper operation; and that as it is sometimes attended with very dangerous and even fatal consequences, which never occur in the cow-pock, His Majesty forbids all persons to practise the inoculation of the small-pox.” This example, says Dr. Themmen, was soon followed in other countries.

Dr. Themmen informs us, that he has known many children cured of very troublesome and obstinate eruptions by vaccination; and several of his friends at Amsterdam have known the same. But notwithstanding all the advantages with which the practice is attended, he is not very sanguine in his expectation, that the small-pox will be speedily exterminated, when he considers the degree of ignorance, prejudice, and self-interest, with which the friends of truth and humanity have to contend.

He considers the progress of vaccination at Am-



sterdam a subject of exultation ; and declares, that  
 “ if there is any one transaction of his life on which  
 he reflects with pleasure, it is this, that he laid the first  
 stone of the new building for this Institution ; and  
 that he has co-operated with the zealous and phi-  
 lanthropic friends of the practice, in bringing it  
 to that degree of celebrity which it has now at-  
 tained.”

The high opinion which Dr. Themmen entertains  
 of Dr. Jenner’s discovery, may be best collected from  
 the following encomium which he has written on the  
 subject :

“ Cynthia ut aufugiunt, et lucida sidera, prodit  
 Cum pelago ex vasto Sol oriente die ;  
 Sic evanescent medicorum inventa priorum,  
 Cum nova Jenneri nascitur arte salus.”

Translation :

As the bright stars, and Cynthia, fade away  
 Before the glories of the God of day ;  
 So the fair fame of each invention dies,  
 When the new sun of Jenner gilds the skies.

Dr. Vivas, of Valentia in Spain, is another foreigner  
 of distinguished abilities, who has paid a tribute of  
 just applause to the name of Jenner ; a translation of  
 which is subjoined.

“ *To the immortal Jenner, &c.*

“ Rhetoric must invent new words, and new orna-  
 ments of elocution, and the gratitude of all mankind

a new mode of manifesting itself, or the first will be unable duly to celebrate your praise, O Jenner ! and the latter, however willing, to return due thanks, for the unparalleled and almost divine benefit of Vaccine Inoculation, which you first conferred on the human race.

“ For what can I say on the present occasion, either worthy of your name, or of those transcendent services which you have rendered to society at large ? Were Tully himself now living, his eloquence could not pronounce a panegyric adequate to your merits.

“ Nor will any one, who is capable of estimating the utility and the glory of your ingenious discovery, deem this assertion rash ; or consider it as the language of adulation. For, to enlarge in some measure on this topic, how is it possible ever sufficiently to applaud that practitioner of medicine, who delivers one city, labouring under a destructive disease, from the jaws of death, by extinguishing all infection ? But if he delivers, not one city, but the whole world, not for a short period of time, but for ever, from the horrors of contagion,—no praise, no honours, no rewards, can equal his desert.

“ And this we have seen accomplished in our own days, by your consummate wisdom : for, by your inestimable discovery, you have laid all the nations of the earth under such an obligation, that, unless they are guilty of ingratitude, which in this case there is no reason to apprehend, they will consecrate your name to immortality.

“ There is no one so ignorant as not to know, that

the small-pox yields not in malignity to any kind of pestilential disease ; for although great numbers of those who are seized with the plague, fall victims to that distemper in a short space of time, yet it rarely occurs, and rages not far and wide like the small-pox.

“ The dreadful ravages which the small-pox has committed, from antient times to the present era, among the Europeans, have called forth the labours of universities, the industry of academies, and the studies of professors against it, but in vain : and the glory of vanquishing that most loathsome of all diseases, is all your own.

“ This, however, is to my mind a source of the most poignant anguish and regret, amidst the common joy ; that notwithstanding the arguments are so numerous, and those neither obscure nor metaphysical, nor abstruse,—but clear, natural, and confirmed by a number of experiments in every nation under heaven,—Vaccine Inoculation was not received in Valentia with the same applause, as in other parts of Spain and of all Europe.

“ Did this proceed from the prejudices of the vulgar, it could not easily be justified ; since it is as it were the height of madness, obstinately to deny what is frequently observed at all times, and in all places. Nevertheless, did the unlettered populace still refuse their assent to the result of this experience, it might be pardonable on the score of ignorance ; or at least, we might wait with patience till they were convinced



by the lapse of time, and adopted a remedy, which by a singular blessing is now proposed.

“ But I would not wish you to imagine, that it is the illiterate part of the community, or men aliens to studies of this kind, who reject your immortal boon, in this place: on the contrary, I may venture to affirm, that it would be eagerly embraced by all ranks of people, and become general in a short space of time; did not certain practitioners of medicine, men in other respects learned, either warped by prejudice or passion, oppose this admirable improvement with all their power, and contend that others have no right to adopt it.

“ But on what reasons are their arguments founded?—Some repeat the stale objections, with which we were surfeited before; such as were advanced against the former species of inoculation. Others, a little more modest, although they cannot deny the wonderful effects of your discovery, strenuously maintain, that it ought not to be put in practice without some preparation. How they could form such an opinion, I am utterly at a loss to conjecture; for although that objection might have had some weight against the former method of inoculation, it has none against yours; which is attended with the most important advantages, but with no danger. Those who had hitherto rejected variolous inoculation on that account, are enamoured with the species of inoculation which you propose; and seek it, and embrace it with the greatest avidity.

“ As to myself,—I not only adopt and admire

your incomparable discovery, but was the first to introduce it into this celebrated city, and to defend it against all opposition. I must also inform you of what will undoubtedly give much pleasure to a mind endowed with philanthropy like yours, that I have inoculated a vast number of persons after your method; and that, in every instance, my practice has been crowned with the greatest success.

“ I have also observed what has been done by others; and ascertained, that vaccine inoculation has produced no ill effect in those who had previously undergone the small-pox. And this is an unanswerable argument, that the new species of inoculation perfectly expels the latent virus, and by this local stimulus frees the system for ever from the natural small-pox.

“ Of this the opponents of vaccine inoculation are fully sensible. They blush with shame, and cannot contradict it; nevertheless they still retain the former opinion with which they were prepossessed.—Wishing to reclaim these obstinate persons from their errors, and at the same time to arm my fellow-citizens against their cavils, I have published a short dialogue in the Spanish tongue, which I send with this letter. This, I flatter myself, you will deign to receive; not that it is worthy of so eminent a practitioner of medicine as you; but that, I confidently hope, this proof of my zeal for promoting the common welfare of mankind will be honoured with your approbation.

“ I trust also, that you will be so kind as to excuse any mistakes which you may discover in either of the

little memoirs which I have written; and accept the sincere thanks which I beg leave to offer, for the blessing you have bestowed, in my own name, and in the names of those whom I have rescued, by the help of your happy discovery, from the imminent perils of a dreadful disease.

“ I cannot conclude, without earnestly beseeching you, that if hereafter you make any further discoveries in this most valuable department of medical science, you will, according to the dictates of your distinguished benevolence, communicate them to me. Thus aided, and thus instructed, I shall advance with fresh ardour; and be more fully prepared to promote the happiness of my fellow-citizens, and the public good.

“ By complying with this request, you will add to the favours already conferred on me, in common with the world at large.

“ Farewell! again and again farewell!

“ VINCENTIUS VIVAS.”

The following is a translation of a letter from Dr. Struve of Gorlitz to Dr. Jenner, dated April 16th, 1802:

“ *Great and honoured Sir!*

“ I HAVE nothing more at heart, nor is any thing more the object of my care, than propagating vaccine inoculation through our province of Saxony, Lusatia. I am aware of its importance; and sensible



how much the health of mankind depends on the practice ; having experienced in my own family, as an unhappy father, the miseries arising from the contagion of the small-pox ; and still lamenting a most charming little boy ; who two years ago was most cruelly tortured by that atrocious disease, and ravished from my paternal embrace.

“ Alas ! that I did not then know of your divine and most fortunate discovery ! From that period, I vowed vengeance and destruction to that baneful pestilence the small-pox, at the tomb of my dearest infant. Being under the obligation of this vow, nothing could be more favourable to the accomplishment of my wishes, than the newly-discovered method of inoculating for the cow-pock ; by which we are enabled successfully to wage a war, undertaken with the design of utterly exterminating our foe.

“ It would neither be improper, nor foreign to the purpose, if every instructor of a young physician. imitating the example of Hamilcar, who brought his son Hannibal to the altar, and, after sacrificing to the gods, made him swear, that when he arrived at manhood, he would be an enemy to the Romans,—would excite his pupil, when entering on practice, to be an enemy to the small-pox ; and to cultivate the inoculation of the cow-pock.

“ I have perused night and day, the best publications on this subject ; especially your own excellent works, which I propose for my model. Conceiving myself to be, by these means, sufficiently instructed, in the month of January 1801, I commenced my

operations; which proved so successful, that by producing and propagating the vaccine affection, almost in one continual series, from that time to the present hour, I could reckon up more than two hundred persons, who have thus been preserved from the small-pox, in this province, by my efforts.

“ Nevertheless, it happened on this, as on other occasions where the health of mankind is the object of contention, that calumniators were not wanting, who vented their spleen against me as a vaccinator; for many persons were my enemies on that account, and almost every one was envious.

“ But no more of these.—The practice of vaccine inoculation, your discovery, is highly esteemed and cultivated by the Germans; insomuch that not a single town or village can be found, in which one or more persons have not been shielded from the infection of the small-pox, by the Jennerian ægis.

“ The number of those who have been rescued from the ravages of this most dreadful disease, and from death, in Germany, by your successful exertions, far exceeds twenty thousand; to which more are added every day. In Silesia, eight thousand have been inoculated with the cow-pock.

“ Communicate to me, as soon as possible, I most earnestly entreat you, whatever you have written or observed on the subject of vaccine inoculation. One thing will tend in a peculiar manner to promote that most humane and beneficial practice among my countrymen; which is, a supply of vaccine lymph from the

Jennerian fountain. I therefore request that favour. My gratitude shall be manifested, by transmitting you an account of our progress in vaccination. The happy fruit of this practice is, to its inventor, an eternal monument of glory."

In a postscript, Dr. Struve mentions an instance of a woman, then eighty two years of age, who had had the cow-pox in the casual way, in Moravia, seventy-two years before, and had since been protected from the small-pox; though she lived in the same apartment with her brothers when labouring under the disorder; and nursed her son when afflicted with it in the most severe degree.

I have received by the post a small anonymous pamphlet, entitled *Pethox Parvus*; which, by solving the anagram, and translating the epithet, for the sake of the antivaccinists, may be rendered the Small-pox. This title is borrowed, with a suitable variation, from Dean Swift; who calls another loathsome disease *Pethox the Great*, in order to avoid a more indelicate name. The present work is "dedicated, without permission, to the remnant of blind priests of that idolatry;" that is, to the inoculators for the small-pox. Were I asked who the author of this ingenious tract is, I should say, in the words of Erasmus, "*Aut Moorus, aut nullus.*"

Alluding to those, who still continue to inoculate for the small-pox, and thus to disseminate the natural disease also, he pathetically exclaims with Milton,



————— O what are these ?  
 Death's ministers, not men, who thus deal death  
 Inhumanly to men, and multiply  
 'Ten thousand fold the sin of him who slew  
 His brother : for of whom such massacre  
 Make they but of their brethren, men of men !

This work is written with the laudable intention of shaming, if it be possible to shame, those who, *blind* to reason and humanity, but *not blind* to their own sordid interest, still continue to inoculate for the small-pox, and, by thus disseminating the natural infection also, to aggravate the horrors of the disease.

If these blind priests of the antient idolatry are still suffered to offer human sacrifice at the shrine of Pethox Parvus, and of Mammon, let some bounds be set to their avarice and ambition ; let them not be suffered to send the victims polluted with their poison and corruption through the streets of the metropolis, like foxes with firebrands at their tails, spreading death and destruction wherever they go.

This *Pethox Parvus*, our author tells us, is the greatest conqueror that ever existed : he has ravaged the greater part of the globe more than a thousand years. The Spaniards introduced him into America ; but they had *Pethox Magnus* in return.

After describing, as far as language can describe, the horrors of the small-pox, and the havoc it has committed, our author pronounces a handsome and well-merited panegyric on Dr. Jenner ; of whose discovery he entertains a much higher opinion than Dr. Moseley or Mr. Birch.

Speaking of the small-pox, he says, "What honours, what riches, would that man merit, who, by intellectual researches and curious experiments, should terminate this calamity? To tame this Sphinx, or to famish him for want of prey, while his food is man, and the world inhabited, appeared impossible; yet an *Œdipus* has at last been found to solve this riddle. He was born on the banks of the Severn; and in his youth was instructed by a sage from the north; who explained to him many of the arcana of nature, and cleared his intellectual eye from those gross films, which obstruct the vision of less favoured mortals.

"The penetrating sagacity of John Hunter distinguished *Œdipus* among his pupils. He invited him to reside in his house; and to become his companion in philosophical pursuits. But the love of rural scenes, and calm contemplation, induced this singular youth to decline so tempting an offer; and fixed him in that spot, where he happily found the materials for his genius to work on."

The author expresses his surprise at the folly and infatuation of those, who still prefer the inoculation of the small-pox, with all the dangers attending it, to the mild and innocent practice of vaccination. This, he thinks, is only to be accounted for from the force of habit; and he very aptly compares them to the peasants on a burning mountain, who, lulled into a state of false security, build their cottages on the very verge of the volcano, that is to swallow them up.

He proposes, that those who are possessed of this

demon, whether they are visited by him of his own will and pleasure, or so mad as to invite him, should be secluded from society till they have performed quarantine; and that his den, from which he so frequently issues, and attacks the unwary, should be strictly guarded; or converted to some better use.

“Hospitals,” says this enlightened author, “were originally founded by humane men, to *preserve* the lives of the poor; but the Small-pox Hospital so far deviates from this purpose, that it has become *one of the principal sources of mortality* in this metropolis. More than two thousand persons are annually infected with a contagious disease at this house; which is also a market, where infectious matter is sold, at an unconscionable price, to all who apply for it; by which means the contagion is continually disseminated through all the streets, lanes, and narrow courts of this crowded city.

“It is difficult to judge of the motives which actuate the Governors. *Do they believe it charity, to bestow death?* Do they agree with Mr. Malthus, in considering it a benevolent act, to sweep away a redundant population? Whatever are their motives, we are astonished that any medical men should consent to be *the executioners* of this species of patriotism. We hope the legislature will soon relieve them from any notion of political duty, which they may entertain; and snatch *the murderous lancet* from their hands.”

Here I must beg leave to correct one error, into which the learned author seems to have fallen. Mr.



Malthus (as was well observed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Perceval, in the late debate in the House of Commons, when an additional remuneration was voted to Dr. Jenner) does not consider it a benevolent act, to sweep away a redundant population; but to prevent a redundant population in future. He proposes certain restraints, in order to check the increase of population, lest we should not have an adequate supply of provisions. He proposes in some measure to prevent life; but thinks it our duty to preserve it, where it already exists.

As to the Governors of the Small-pox Hospital, the author of the pamphlet before me justly expresses his astonishment at their conduct. It is, indeed, highly improbable, that the Governors in general have any improper motives; but they have betrayed a strange apathy and indifference on this occasion, by leaving the management of their hospital to those who have an interest in the question.

I have, indeed, been much surprised, at hearing several of the Governors of that institution in private conversation, and one of them in the House of Commons, declare their ignorance, that *great numbers* of out-patients were still inoculated for the small-pox at their seminary of disease; and, as the College of Physicians express it in their Report, that these out-patients are "*afterwards required to attend twice or three times a week, at the place of inoculation, through every stage of their illness.*"

It has been pretended, that if the practice were discontinued at the Hospital, it would still be persevered

in by certain members of the profession. But it would then gradually decline, and fall into disrepute; whereas now it is countenanced and encouraged. It is also alleged, that if the poor could not have their children inoculated for the small-pox at the hospital, they would perform the operation themselves. This is also in some measure true; but a great majority of them would not have sufficient confidence in themselves or their neighbours; and besides, the great source of infection, that of carrying masses of corruption through the crowded streets of the metropolis to the hospital, would then be cut off.

It is well known to medical practitioners, that the public have for some years been doubtful which of the two kinds of inoculation to prefer; and that the facility with which they were accommodated with variolous inoculation, at the Small-pox Hospital, has been the chief impediment to vaccination. Instead, therefore, of being a pesthouse, this institution may now be considered as a pest.

I have already shewn, that vaccination is as highly esteemed in other parts of the world as in Great Britain. It would, indeed, be difficult to point out any spot, on the whole surface of the globe, where it has met with so cold a reception as here; so that the old adage, a prophet is not honoured in his own country, has been too much verified. It is, however, with no small degree of triumph and exultation, that we have lately witnessed some alteration in the sentiments of our countrymen. They are now convinced of the vast advantage of Dr. Jenner's dis-

covery; and the Legislature has granted him a farther remuneration of twenty thousand pounds, in addition to the ten thousand granted before. This act reflects honour on the nation; *sunt hic etiam sua præmia laudi.*

This remuneration, superior as it is to any other ever granted on any similar occasion, though so inferior to the importance of the discovery, and the liberal and disinterested manner in which it was divulged, will stamp an additional value on the practice in the eyes of the public; and, together with such salutary regulations and restraints, as the wisdom of Parliament may adopt, will, I trust, soon overcome all opposition.

I was long ago informed by a nobleman, who resided some years at Petersburg, as the British Ambassador, that the Russians appeared much more enlightened in this respect, than the people of this country; and that vaccination made a much more rapid progress there than in this kingdom. In France, in Prussia, and in other European states, as well as in our own Asiatic territories, it has long been zealously practised, and propagated, under the immediate influence of the executive Governments; while we have been coolly and deliberately consulting the oracle, in order to know, whether we ought to accept, or reject the boon.—*Sero sapient Phryges.*

The following translation of an article in the Supplement to the Madrid Gazette, dated October 14th, 1806, is a sufficient proof of the high estimation in which it is held in Spain:



“ On Sunday, the 7th of September last, Dr. Francis Xavier Balmis, Surgeon Extraordinary to the King, had the honour of kissing His Majesty’s hand, on occasion of his return from a voyage round the world, executed with the sole object of carrying to all the possessions of the Crown of Spain, situated beyond the seas, and to those of several other nations, the inestimable gift of vaccine inoculation. His Majesty has inquired, with the liveliest interest, into all that materially related to the expedition ; and learned, with the utmost satisfaction, that its result has exceeded the most sanguine expectations which were entertained at the time of the enterprise.

“ This undertaking had been committed to the diligence of several members of the faculty, and subordinate persons ; carrying with them twenty-two children, who had never undergone the small-pox ; selected for the preservation of the precious fluid, by transmitting it successively from one to another, during the course of the voyage. The expedition set sail from Corunna, under the direction of Balmis, on the 30th of November 1803. It made the first stoppage at the Canary Islands, the second at Porto-Rico, and the third at the Caracas. On leaving that province, by the port of La Guayra, it was divided into two branches : one part sailing to South America, under the charge of the Sub-director Don Francis Salvani ; the other, with the Director Balmis on board, steering for the Havannah and thence for Yucatan. There a subdivision took place : the professor Francis Pastor proceeding from the port of Sisal, to that of Villaher-

mosa, in the province of Tobasco, for the purpose of propagating vaccination in the district of Ciudad Real de Chiapa, and on to Guatemala, making a circuit of four hundred leagues, through a long and rough road, comprising Oaxaca ; while the rest of the expedition, which arrived without accident at Vera-cruz, traversed not only the Vice-royalty of New Spain, but also the interior provinces ; whence it was to return to Mexico, which was the point of re-union.

“ This precious preservative against the ravages of the small-pox has already been extended through the whole of North America, to the coasts of Sonora and Sinaloa, and even to the pagans and new converts of Pimeria Alta. In each capital a Council has been instituted, composed of the principal authorities, and the most zealous members of the faculty ; charged with the preservation of this invaluable specific, as a sacred deposit, for which they are accountable to the King, and to posterity.

“ This being accomplished, it was the next care of the Director to carry this part of the expedition from America to Asia, crowned with the most brilliant success, and, with it, the comfort of humanity. Some difficulties having been surmounted, he embarked in the port of Acapulco for the Philippine Islands ; that being the point at which, if attainable, it was originally intended that the undertaking should terminate.

“ The bounty of Divine Providence having vouchsafed to second the great and pious designs of the King, Balmis happily performed the voyage in little

more than two months; carrying with him, from New Spain, twenty-six children, destined to be vaccinated in succession, as before; and, as many of them were infants, they were committed to the care of the Matron of the Founding Hospital at La Corunna; who, in this, as well as the former voyages, conducted herself in a manner to merit approbation. The expedition having arrived at the Philippines, and propagated the specific in the islands subject to His Catholic Majesty; Balmis, having concluded his philanthropic commission, concerted with the Captain General the means of extending the beneficence of the King, and the glory of his august name, to the remotest confines of Asia.

“ In fact, the cow-pox has been disseminated through the vast Archipelago of the Visayan Islands; whose Chiefs, accustomed to wage perpetual war with us, have laid down their arms, admiring the generosity of an enemy, who conferred upon them the blessings of health and life, at the time when they were labouring under the ravages of an epidemic small-pox. The principal persons of the Portuguese colonies, and of the Chinese empire, manifested themselves no less beholden, when Balmis reached Macao and Canton; in both which places he accomplished the introduction of fresh virus, in all its activity, by the means already related; a result, which the English, on repeated trials, had failed to produce, on the various occasions when they brought out portions of matter in the ships of their East-India Company:



which lost their efficacy on the passage, and arrived inert.

“ After having propagated the vaccine inoculation at Canton, as far as possibility and the political circumstances of the empire would permit, and having confided the further dissemination of it to the physicians of the English factory at the above-mentioned port, Balmis returned to Macao, and embarked in a Portuguese vessel for Lisbon; where he arrived on the 15th of August. In the way he stopped at St. Helena, in which, as in other places, by dint of exhortation and perseverance, he prevailed upon the English to adopt the astonishing antidote, which they had undervalued for the space of more than eight years, though it was a discovery of their own nation, and though it was sent to them by Jenner himself.

“ Of that branch of the expedition which was destined for Peru, it is ascertained that it was shipwrecked in one of the mouths of the river de la Magdalena; but having derived immediate succour from the natives, and from the magistrates adjacent, and from the governor of Carthagena, the sub-director, and three members of the faculty who accompanied him, and the children, were saved, with the fluid in good preservation, which they disseminated in that port, and its province, with activity and success. Thence it was carried to the isthmus of Panama, and persons, properly provided with all necessaries, undertook the long and painful navigation of the river de la Magdalena; separating, when they reached the interior, to discharge their commissions in the towns of Teneriffe,

Mompox, Ocana, Socorro, San Gil y Medelin, in the valley of Cucuta, and in the cities of Pamplona, Giron, Tunja, Velez, and other places in the neighbourhood, until they met at Santa Fe: leaving every where suitable instructions for the members of the faculty, and, in the more considerable towns, regulations conformable with those rules, which the Director had prescribed for the preservation of the virus; which the Viceroy affirms to have been communicated to *fifty thousand* persons, without one unfavourable result. Towards the end of March 1805, they prepared to continue their journey in separate tracks, for the purpose of extending themselves, with greater facility and promptitude, over the remaining districts of the Vice-royalty, situated in the road of Popayan, Cuenca, and Quito, as far as Lima. In August following they reached Guayaquil.

“ The result of this expedition has been, not merely to propagate vaccination amongst all people, whether friends or enemies, among Moors, Visayans, and Chinese, but also to secure to posterity, in the dominions of His Majesty, the perpetuity of so great a benefit; partly by means of the Central Committees that have been established; and, partly, by the discovery of indigenous matter in the cows of the valley of Atlixco, near the city of Puebla de los Angeles, by Balmis, in the neighbourhood of that of Valladolid de Mechoacan, by the Adjutant Antonio Gutierrez, and in the district of Calabozo, in the province of Caracas, by Don Carlos de Pozo, the physician of that residence.

“A multitude of observations, which will be published without delay, respecting the developement of the cow-pox in various climes, and its efficacy, not merely in preventing the natural small-pox, but in curing, at the same time, other morbid affections of the human frame, will manifest how important the consequences of an expedition, which has no parallel in history, will prove to the cause of humanity.

“Though the object of this undertaking was limited to the communication of the cow-pock in every quarter, the instruction of practitioners, and the establishment of regulations, which might serve to render it perpetual,—nevertheless, the Director has omitted no means of rendering his services beneficial, at the same time, to agriculture and the sciences. He brings with him a considerable collection of exotic plants. He has caused drawings to be made of the most valuable subjects in natural history. He has amassed much important information; and, among other claims to the gratitude of his country, not the least consists in having imported a valuable assemblage of trees and vegetables, in a state to admit of propagation; and which, being cultivated in those parts of the peninsula that are most congenial with their growth, will render this expedition as memorable in the annals of agriculture, as in those of medicine and humanity. It is hoped that the sub-director and his coadjutors, appointed to carry these blessings to Peru, will shortly return by way of Buenos Ayres; after accomplishing their journey through that Vice-royalty, the Vice-royalty of Lima, and the districts of Chili



and Charcas ; and that they will bring with them such collections and observations as they have been able to acquire, according to the instructions given by the Director ; without losing sight of the philanthropic commission which they received from His Majesty, in the plenitude of his zeal for the welfare of the human race."

It is rather strange, that Spain should plan and execute such a philanthropic expedition, and diffuse this signal blessing of Divine Providence round the globe, while a nation which pretends to a more enlightened policy, was doubtful whether it was worth her while to adopt the practice at home. We have had no philanthropic expeditions ; unless those expeditions can be called philanthropic, which private adventurers have undertaken on their own account, as a speculation. Portugal has sent out a philanthropic expedition to her own colony, the Brazils ; but as to John Bull, he has taken care to vaccinate his own soldiers and sailors ; and not troubled himself much about the rest of the world.

Even France, with all her imperfections, eagerly adopted this divine art ; and her Government promoted it from a very early period, not with barren patronage or empty praise ; but by such assistance, as the nature of the practice demanded. If they had no statute law, to justify them in doing so good and patriotic an act, they had the law of reason, the law of self-preservation, and the law of nature.—*Salus populi suprema lex.*—Dr. De Carro said, five years ago, what many other persons said, both abroad and at home,

that it was surprising the Parliament of three united kingdoms, which gave ten thousand pounds to the author of this discovery, had done nothing towards putting it into execution :

—————Pudet hæc opprobria nobis  
Et dici potuisse, et non potuisse refelli.

Our India Governments are, however, exempt from this imputation. With a zeal, at which some people ought to blush, they sought and obtained the precious boon ; and cherished it as it deserves. I have now before me a letter from Dr. Keir, superintendant-general of vaccination at Bombay, to Dr. Jenner, dated Dec. 18, 1806, in which he informs him, that the inhabitants of that country now enjoy the blessings of his discovery, from Delhi to Cape Comorin ; that the practice is widely diffused ; and attended with uniform success.

Those who are entrusted with the reins of government, in that part of the world, have shewn all possible anxiety to disseminate the new inoculation ; and at each of the three Presidencies, there is a regular establishment for that purpose.—The duty of the superintendant is, to preserve the virus, and to transmit it to the out-stations when it is lost there.

Vaccination has now been introduced into Bombay five years. Till then the small-pox was annually epidemic. Its ravages were soon checked ; and for the last three years, it has been totally exterminated. This advantage, however, is attended with one disadvantage ; for such is the indolence and apathy of the

Asiatic character, that as the danger is now remote, they think it too much trouble to bring their children to the stations.

Such is the mortality of the small-pox in India, that it proves fatal to one third, and sometimes to half, of those who have it in the natural way; and one in fifty dies under inoculation, in addition to the mischief which that practice occasions, by spreading the natural infection.—After stating these objections to the inoculation of the small-pox, Dr. Keir observes, that he has seen so much of the horrors attending it, and so much of the happy mildness and efficacy of vaccination, that he thinks it necessary to apologize for making any comparison between the old and the new practice. He thinks, that on a moderate computation, fifty thousand lives have been preserved by vaccination in that Presidency alone; and in the other Presidencies, which are much larger, a far greater number.

Dr. Keir concludes with stating, that all which they have seen in India is ample and unanswerable evidence of all that Dr. Jenner has said and taught. The inhabitants of Bombay were, therefore, astonished at the extraordinary parsimony of Government in the first sum granted to him as a remuneration; and had opened a subscription, in some measure to supply that defect.

By a letter from my correspondent, Dr. Anderson, physician-general at Madras, and a report from Dr. M'Kenzie, superintendant-general of vaccine inoculation, I learn, that more than half a million of persons



had been vaccinated in that Presidency; of whom about three thousand had been since put to the test of variolous inoculation, which they all resisted. The government at Madras, as well as that at Bombay, had followed the example of that in Bengal, and opened a subscription, as a testimony of respect for Dr. Jenner.

A very considerable reduction, in the expense attending inoculation, has already taken place, since the introduction of this new practice; and the lives thus preserved, in that country, are a source of considerable emolument to the state; independent of the advantage of the practice in point of humanity, which is beyond all calculation.

Mr. Shoolbred, superintendant-general of vaccine inoculation in Bengal, has repeatedly communicated to me the happy progress of vaccination in that Presidency; where the late Governor-general, Marquis Wellesley, was its zealous patron. The late Governor-general, Marquis Cornwallis, was also so strongly impressed with a sense of the value of the practice, that it was one of the first acts of his government, after his arrival in India, to propose a subscription in favour of Dr. Jenner.

The Honourable Mr. North, Governor of Ceylon, held this discovery in equal estimation; and we were long ago informed by Mr. Christie, that in consequence of the great encouragement which vaccination had received in that island, under his auspices, the small-pox appeared to be exterminated; and the

hospital destined for variolous inoculation was converted to a better purpose.

From all parts of America I have the most satisfactory accounts. Vaccination is there, as well as here, duly appreciated by all the respectable part of the medical profession, and all the enlightened members of society. There, as well as here, it is opposed by a few selfish, ignorant, and illiberal practitioners; who can see no advantage in this innovation, because they derive no advantage from the practice. I have not heard, however, that they have tried to terrify the vulgar, by pretending that the cow-pox produced monstrous diseases. This stratagem was left for the leader of the chosen band to devise; and for European depravity to execute.

I am informed by Dr. Themmen of Amsterdam, Dr. Weigel of Stralsund, and others, that vaccination is making the same rapid and successful progress in Denmark and Sweden, as in the South of Europe; but no country has embraced the practice with greater enthusiasm, nor propagated it with greater zeal, than Russia. The Empress Dowager of Russia, who presides over all the charitable institutions in that vast empire, honours it with her peculiar patronage; having sent Dr. Jenner a valuable present, and a letter in her own hand, in which she expresses her high sense of the importance of his discovery.

Dr. Bouttatz, a native of Moscow, who resided a considerable time in this metropolis, applied to me for information on the subject, which he transmitted to the Russian Court; and for instruc-

tions in the practice, which he made one of the principal objects of his attention. On his return to Russia, he was appointed by His Imperial Majesty to the office of superintendant of vaccination; with orders to propagate the practice throughout his extensive dominions.

Dr. Rehmann, physician of the Russian embassy to China, was also directed to propagate it in Siberia, and transplant it to the northern part of that mighty empire, which was the object of his destination; and there is great reason to believe that he has succeeded in this undertaking; for he found the practice already established in many parts of Siberia, and even on the very frontiers of China.

Books on this subject were translated into the Tartar language, and published at Casan; and the natives were prevailed on to adopt this happy mode of preserving their children from the small-pox. In many tribes, that scourge of humanity was exterminated; and the priests, who are the physicians of those illiterate nations, daily solicited the Russian surgeons to repair to some of their villages, and vaccinate the people in mass.

Dr. Rehmann is so far from entertaining the same opinion of vaccination with those two luminaries of our hemisphere, Dr. Moseley and Mr. Birch, that he considered his labour in this vineyard, and his endeavours to exterminate the small-pox, the greatest service he could render humanity. He considered the preservation of the guardian virus one of his most essential duties; and the transplantation of it to



China, the greatest blessing he could confer on that mighty empire.

But in the northern parts of Asia, which are under the dominion of Russia, where whole countries are almost depopulated by the small-pox, the value of vaccination is enhanced. Dr. Rehmann therefore formed a plan for imparting the benefits of this salutary practice to those departments ; and to the islands which are situated between the continents of Asia and America. This expedition, therefore, like that of the Spaniards, will spread vaccination, and with it the comfort of humanity, round the globe.

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*On the Policy, or Impolicy, of permitting Variolous Inoculation.*

I cannot conclude this work, without giving some extracts from an excellent publication which has lately appeared, under the title of "A Letter to Mr. Perceval, Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the Expediency and Propriety of regulating by parliamentary Authority, the Practice of variolous Inoculation, with a view to the Extermination of the Small-pox."—This publication, though evidently the work of a lawyer, even in a medical point of view, comes to great advantage after those of Dr. Moseley and Mr. Birch. *Hi vero non antiquæ sapientiæ, sed novæ stultitiæ doctores sunt habendi.*

The learned and enlightened author of this tract assures Mr. Perceval, that no subject of less im-

portance than this, upon which the welfare and happiness of the public so much depend, could have induced him to divert the attention of a statesman from the other arduous duties of his office, at this critical conjuncture. He thinks there is no subject less likely to be misconstrued than this even by ignorance itself; this, however, is a proof, that with all his learning and good sense, he has never fathomed the ignorance of the enemies of vaccination.

He observes, that this topic involves no distant speculation of supposed humanity, but the most direct, immediate, and important benefits to mankind; and that the late Report of the College is no less honourable to that learned body for its candour and simplicity, than for its discrimination.

The College having given a decided opinion, that the advantage of vaccination, if not absolutely perfect, is as perfect as can ever be expected from any human discovery, the learned author proceeds to consider the causes which have hitherto retarded its general adoption; and particularly notices the malignant and contemptible efforts of the antivaccinists, who have abused the credulity of the ignorant, and the confidence of the public.

When the College express their opinion, that it will be impossible to exterminate the small-pox, unless the Legislature, in its wisdom, shall adopt some measure to cut off the source of infection, the author justly observes, that this measure, suggested by the College, derives additional weight from the modesty with which it is proposed. To this measure, there-

fore, he calls Mr. Perceval's particular attention ; and thinks the task will not be the less grateful to him, if it should be found necessary to retrace some of the paths of our ancient law, which, from a change of circumstances, are become obsolete, if not forgotten ; and to contemplate the humane policy and prudent precaution of our ancestors, and the wisdom of ages, on which we ought to look back with veneration, and not with contempt.

The learned author observes, that it is politic to offer gratuitous vaccination to the poor ; and that the expense of such a measure will be trivial, when compared with the object ; but the principal question which he considers is, whether the Legislature ought to interfere, in order to restrain, or to regulate, the inoculation of the small-pox. This question he decides in the affirmative, and deems such an interference not only necessary, but also legal and constitutional ; he even thinks it the duty of the Legislature to interfere on this occasion, and to interpose with its authority ; and that any forbearance, on such an occasion, would be a vicious acquiescence in individual caprice, to the detriment of the public.

He admits the inoculation of the small-pox to be an advantage to those individuals who submit to it ; but observes, that it fosters and regenerates a perpetual source of contagion, which increases the aggregate mortality of the disease ; and that, however justifiable the practice was before the discovery of vaccination, it is now become unreasonable, reprehensible, and rash.



He thinks it strange, that this distemper is still preserved and propagated by the subjects of this realm, according to their will and pleasure; that it is cherished by public institutions, and suffered to walk abroad in our streets, in its most disgusting form, spreading contagion. He thinks it impolitic thus to permit, and, by the silence of our laws, even sanction, a liberty so contrary to all the principles of public welfare.

He observes, that the superiority of vaccine inoculation is now decided, by the most satisfactory evidence, and by the most competent tribunal; and that, if the Legislature should prohibit variolous inoculation, it would not excite the least alarm in any reasoning mind. If, however, that practice is still to be allowed, he maintains that it ought to be put under some restriction; and that no man can doubt this, who has read the Report of the College of Physicians; and acquiesces in the conclusions, to which the honour and character of that learned body are pledged.

He contends, that if it is the first duty of Government to watch over the public safety, it must be the first duty of Government to check what is hostile to the public welfare. Evils there are, which no human foresight can anticipate, no human interference avert; but when the ruling powers can ward off a general evil, or confer a general good, it is no doubtful or imperfect obligation, but an imperious and indispensable duty, that demands their exertion.

On this principle the Legislature and the Crown interposed, in the year 1720, in order to check the mis-

chief occasioned by the South-Sea bubble ; although that nuisance affected only the fortunes of individuals, whereas this affects the health, the population, and the safety, of the whole empire. To prove, however, in a manner still more satisfactory, that such measures of restraint and coercion, if unpopular, are neither new, nor unconstitutional, when the public health requires them, the learned author produces a number of precedents ; and shews what was done by our ancestors in similar cases. Had they remained supine, and neglected the means of preservation which Providence had placed in their hands, their race must soon have been extinct ; for before the progress of the leprosy was checked by salutary laws, there were fifteen thousand hospitals in Europe, for the reception of the miserable objects labouring under that dreadful disease.

The learned author cites a number of instances, in which restraints have been imposed on the liberty of the subject, in such cases, for the space of five hundred years ; and hence infers, that the law of England, though humane and merciful, is nevertheless vigilant ; and will not suffer the health and happiness of the public to be sacrificed to prejudice and caprice. He thinks it unwise, and inconsistent, to enact laws for enforcing quarantine, and to guard against a foreign infection, while we cherish an infection, which is equally malignant, within our own bosom.

He is of opinion, that the inoculation of the small-pox ought to be prohibited, or at least regulated ; and that while the great council of the nation is engaged

in the grateful office of preparing honours and rewards for the Benefactor of the human race, who has made this discovery, and communicated it to the public, it should also pursue such measures as may be deemed most efficacious, for the extermination of the small-pox.

He thinks it a reproach, that when we behold all Europe embracing this blessing with avidity, and transmitting it to their colonies, we, on whom, under Divine Providence, the author of the discovery has conferred it, should alone rest supine; and leave it to the caprice of individuals, however prejudiced, and however ignorant, to decide, whether they will co-operate with us in eradicating a pestilence from our country, or try to perpetuate its existence.

The learned author justly observes, that not only the person who is to be inoculated, or the parent, is here concerned, but a third party, namely the public, are deeply interested in this question; and are, of course, justified in interfering for their own security. But if we are deaf to the call of humanity, he appeals to our policy; and reminds us, that it is not provident to neglect this great source of population, which our inveterate rival, with her usual promptitude, has so eagerly adopted.

This work, in which the true principles of legislation are so clearly elucidated, and so accurately defined, is from the pen of a distinguished professional character; on whom it reflects great honour. It concludes with a compliment to Mr. Perceval, in the words of one of the most able and enlightened com-



mentators on the Roman law: "Such is the dignity and the majesty of the Roman law, that no one who deserves the name of a Roman lawyer, can be ignorant how to act the part of a legislator also, whenever his public duty may require it."

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*On the Extermination of the Small-Pox.*

Should the Legislature, in its wisdom, so far limit the inoculation of the small-pox, as to prevent it from spreading the natural infection, the principal obstacle to the extermination of that fatal disease would be removed. Other measures would also greatly conduce to this desirable end; and whatever reasons might have been alleged before for not adopting them, none can be alleged now, when the College of Physicians have delivered in their Report.

It is, indeed, a little singular, that when the representatives of three great nations were assembled, and assured by the best authority, that vaccination appears capable of realizing all the sanguine hopes that have been formed of it, they should part, without enacting a single law to promote the practice. Justice and humanity pointed out a very different line of conduct:

Verum hæc tanta valent tela inter martia, quantum  
Chaoniæ dicunt aquilâ veniente columbæ.

The enemies of vaccination, however, have not been idle at this critical juncture. They republish their old trash under a new title, and call it a *Refuta-*

tion of the Report of the College ; and have found booksellers, who for the sake of gain, very cordially co-operate with them in this base imposition. This is not the whole extent of the evil. A whole host of medical practitioners of the lowest order, who dare not openly avow their enmity to vaccination, retard its progress much more effectually by the help of such publications ; which they purchase with the utmost avidity, and disseminate among all their acquaintance.

When the plague breaks out at Constantinople, or the yellow fever at New York, proper measures are pursued to prevent the introduction of those disorders into this country ; but when we have a deadly contagion at home, and in the very bosom of the metropolis, instead of attempting to arrest its progress, and check its ravages, we suffer every empiric to follow his trade ; and to cherish the growth of that devouring pestilence with impunity. If a murrain approached the metropolis, or even appeared at the Land's End, our pilots of state, as in duty bound, would issue a proclamation, in order to suppress it ; but when the small-pox is raging on every side, and ravaging the land, John Bull sits with his arms folded, and his eyes half closed ; and turns a deaf ear to the calls of humanity. He is ready to part with his children ; but has no inclination *to part with his roast beef.*

I have before me a letter from a most enlightened and benevolent divine, whose zeal in vaccination I long ago recorded, to Dr. Jenner, in which he declares,

that the extermination of the small-pox in his neighbourhood seems to be as remote as ever, “owing to various causes; the principal of which are, the selfishness and avarice of the lower orders of the profession. They either demand more for the operation than the poor can afford to pay; or represent the practice as unsafe.”

The reverend divine then observes, “that parish-officers are not anxious to propagate vaccination; or willing to defray the trifling expense attending it from the parish rates.” In this respect they do not shew their usual sagacity; for the cow-pox is so much cheaper than the small-pox, that if they adopt the practice, the saving in the article of coffins, will defray the expense of many a good dinner.

As to Dr. Moseley, Mr. Birch, and others, who still wish to sow the seeds of the small-pox, in hopes of a joyful harvest, if any restraints are laid on their practice, a subscription should be opened, to indemnify them for their loss; and I shall be ready to contribute towards it, all the profit that I have reaped from vaccination in the course of eight years.

This controversy, which Dr. Moseley first provoked, not Mr. Birch, who claims that honour, has now extended to a considerable length; and been attended with great trouble and inconvenience. It has, however, afforded some amusement and instruction; for had it never taken place, we should not have been diverted with Dr. Moseley’s buffoonery; nor have been edified by Mr. Birch’s cases of *natural* small-pox in consequence of *inoculation*.



Some of our Reviewers appeal to *the conscience* of Mr. Birch and his bookseller, and might with equal reason appeal to the consciences of Dr. Moseley and his booksellers, asking whether the re-publication of these pamphlets, under different titles, is not a *take-in*. This, however, is an appeal to those who have no conscience ; for had they any conscience, this *take-in*, which is a new species of swindling, would never have been practised. Were an appeal made by any purchaser of such a *take-in* to the *Court of Conscience*, I have no doubt that the money would be refunded.

But when we consider how an antivaccinist spends his time, it is absurd to suppose that he can find leisure to write many books, or collect materials for such a purpose. *Ab uno disce omnes*. Instead of rejoicing at the tidings of Dr. Jenner's happy discovery, and instituting a series of experiments, in order to ascertain its real merits, he continued to move in the same giddy circle of fashionable folly and dissipation, as he had moved in before ;

He danc'd, and he play'd, and he sung, and whenc'er  
A fiddle was heard, to be sure he was there.

Truth lies in a well ; and she may lie there a long while before an antivaccinist will find her out. If the House of Commons wish to know his opinion of vaccination, they must excuse him for coming before them with two black eyes ; one of his drunken companions having kicked and cuffed him the night before, and put him under the table.

An antivaccinist cannot be compelled to be a sober man, or a wise man; but if, instead of being a grave and discreet Doctor, he is so dissolute, that he suffers his gallantries to come before a Court of Justice, where it requires all the wisdom of Solomon to decide his claims, let him be cautious how he insults a venerable divine, or casts reflections on the character of an honest man.

If he is free of every place of public amusement in London, and every night at one of them, treading on a gentleman's toes, and then complaining of the drubbing he receives—if he spends in drinking and debauchery, the time which he should spend in professional pursuits, let him not pretend to dispute about a professional question; otherwise we shall say,

Lusisti satis, edisti satis, atque bibisti,  
Tempus abire tibi.

---

The two following communications from a gentleman with whom I have no personal acquaintance, contain so much important information on this point, and furnish so many useful hints, that I consider it my duty to publish them in this place.

*“ Chobham, near Bagshot, Aug. 15th, 1807.*

“ SIR,

“ I hope the subject of my letter will be a sufficient apology for my troubling you, to whom I must be entirely unknown. Your unremitting perseverance in the cause of vaccination, has often ex-

cited my admiration. You have detected error in every quarter; exposed calumny and falsehood, though under the sanction of formidable names; and, as far as was in the power of an individual, removed the veil of ignorance and prejudice by the light of truth. Yet, notwithstanding your truly laudable exertions, and the endeavours of many other members of the profession, to exterminate the small-pox, that most loathsome of all diseases, still, in some degree, continues its ravages.

“The open and avowed enemies of vaccination have undoubtedly done much injury; but, as you justly observe, the most dangerous enemies of vaccination are its pretended friends; men who openly profess to favour the practice, but secretly endeavour to undermine it. I trust, however, that even these will soon be silenced and abashed, by your vigilance.

“After all, a Herculean labour still remains to be performed.—You are well aware, Sir, that there are men in our profession, as well as in every other, whose avarice has stifled every sentiment of humanity. To men of this description, whose characters are too obscure to be known, we may in a great measure attribute the devastations of the small-pox in the different parts of the country; and the many reports of insecurity from vaccination. They are indifferent whether they vaccinate or inoculate, provided they receive their fee; and prefer ease and emolument to every other consideration.

“I have heard of many instances of this sort of practice from unquestionable authority; and one,



some time ago, came under my own observation. In November 1805, a poor woman of this place caught the small-pox at a neighbouring village; of which she died. Her husband soon fell a victim to the same disease; leaving five helpless orphans to the care of the parish. The alarm was immediately given; and a general inoculation commenced. Unfortunately, at that time, many of the absurdities and falsehoods contained in Dr. Rowley's publications, had become known to the lower orders of people; consequently the very mention of the word cow-pox, produced in them evident tokens of horror and disgust; and they preferred the hazard of the natural small-pox to vaccination.

“ It was in vain urged, that the most respectable inhabitants of the place had their families vaccinated; I had no alternative; but was under the necessity of inoculating a great number of patients for the small-pox, within a few days. In the mean time, however, I collected several children, whom I had vaccinated at different periods, some as far back as the year 1800; and, in the presence of a great number of these deluded people, inoculated them with variolous matter; in order to convince them of the efficacy of vaccination. Several days elapsed before they could be satisfied of the truth of what I had asserted; and, during this interval, five hundred persons were inoculated for the small-pox.

“ All the vaccine patients having resisted the test of variolous inoculation, upwards of two hundred others came forward to be vaccinated; and as no deaths

occurred in my other patients, who had the small-pox by inoculation, I embraced that opportunity of making it publicly known, that, notwithstanding my success, I should not, on any account whatever, inoculate again for the small-pox.

“ I now fully expected that vaccination would supersede variolous inoculation in this neighbourhood; and that all prejudices would be done away; but in this hope I was miserably mistaken. A general inoculation was resolved on in a neighbouring parish; and the lower order of people were universally disposed to adopt vaccination; with which the practitioner who was employed, being one of those characters before alluded to, reluctantly complied. The consequence was, that a considerable number of his patients were not infected.

“ Some of them, who were doubtful whether infection had taken place in them, as their medical attendant had never seen them after the operation, applied to him to be vaccinated again; but they were told that they were insusceptible of the disorder, and that if they wished to be inoculated again, they must be inoculated for the small-pox. You must be sensible that the consequence of such a mode of procedure must be dreadful. A number of poor ignorant people are here left in a much worse situation than if they had never undergone any attempt to secure them from the infection of the small-pox; independent of the prejudice which such base practices must excite against vaccination.

“ Nothing short of an act of the Legislature seems to be sufficient to put a stop to such nefarious pro-

ceedings. Perhaps the nature of our constitution will not permit Parliament to prohibit variolous inoculation: yet many expedients might be had recourse to, which would have some tendency to prevent it. It has been proposed that every inoculator for the small-pox should be obliged to take out an annual license to a high amount; this would at least be a check, if not a prohibition. Does not the present plan of the Small-pox Hospital tacitly acknowledge that variolous inoculation is superior to vaccination?

“ All my vaccine patients have uniformly resisted the variolous contagion. I fear I have been troublesome to the Jennerian Society, having received virus from them several times; but from some serious anomalous appearances which occurred in several patients vaccinated with matter from another quarter, soon after I commenced the practice, I resolved to use no other but what I procured from the Society, or from my own patients.

“ I must apologize for trespassing so long on your time; and beg the favour of you to inform me who your bookseller is, and what are the latest editions of your works.

I am, &c.

“ ROBERT HARRUP.”

Mr. Harrup's second letter, dated August 23d, 1807, is as follows:—“ I was this morning favoured with your obliging letter; and heartily wish that my former contained any thing more worthy of the public eye. Such as it is, it is much at your service, and you may make whatever use of it you think proper.



I shall anxiously expect the publication of ‘A Rowland for an Oliver;’ though, to say the truth, I have never read the publications which occasioned it; and probably never shall.

“ I frequently amuse myself by conjecturing what could induce some of the antivaccinists to disgrace themselves as they have done, by the wretched stuff with which they have poisoned the minds of the weaker part of the community. Perhaps, despairing of doing it in any other way, they have hit on this respectable method of transmitting their names to posterity. They ought, however, to recollect, that this is no modern discovery, for the ancient incendiary who set fire to the most celebrated temple in the world, was actuated by the same motive.

“ I wish you success in your attempt to destroy this hydra; and am, with respect and esteem,

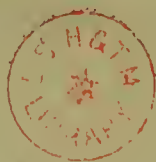
“ Sir, your obedient servant,

“ ROBERT HARRUP.”

This Hydra, to whom Mr. Harrup alludes, having long pampered his appetite, and indulged his inclination, is impatient of restraint; and determined to resist every kind of encroachment on his practice. But the Monster is not formidable; his heads do not regenerate; he has lost some of them, and as to the rest, *dabit Deus his quoque finem.*

THE END.

S. Gosnell, Printer,  
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“ This will certainly be the case, so long as critics endeavour to substitute, in their judicial decisions, *assertion* for *proof*; and labour more to *display wit*, than to *evince judgment*. The principles of the Edinburgh Review, and the tendency of their efforts, may be tolerably appreciated by the character of their patrons. We shall now avail ourselves of Mr. Ring’s critical abilities. ‘ The beauties, &c.’

“ Our readers, we doubt not, will admit the qualifications of Mr. Ring to be one of our fraternity; and, leaving the Edinburgh Reviewers in his hands, we return him our thanks, and bid him adieu for the present; promising, however, to renew our connection with him in our next Number.”



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